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WESTERN RESISTANCE TO INF PROPOSAL ANALYZED

Bogachev on Reagan's Stance

LD251634 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 25 Mar 87

["INF Treaty Will Strengthen World Peace -- Analysis" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

Way back in early 1982 a negotiator involved in Soviet-American talks on nuclear arms in Europe expressed the opinion that while making its "zero option" proposal, the U.S. delegation in Geneva was aterribly afraid lest it should be accepted.

The Reagan administration, he said, was much more interested in a U.S. nuclear arms buildup in Western Europe than in mutual cuts in nuclear weapons.

American General Bernard Rogers, supreme allied commander, Europe, has now most definitely confirmed that conclusion of five years ago.

Writing in the West German newspaper WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE, he came out against a zero-zero solution to the issue of medium-range missiles in Europe on the grounds that it would allegedly make NATO weaker.

He also effectively conceded the untenability of NATO propaganda claims for many years that "The United States has had to deploy its missiles in Western Europe to offset the Soviet missile threat".

"Historically, it would be wrong to think that NATO's re-armament has been a response to Soviet missile deployments in Europe," General Rogers said.

His negative attitude to the Soviet proposals concerning medium-range missiles can hardly be explained by his concern about "weaknesses" in the NATO military structure: The missiles will have to be destroyed not only by the United States but also by the Soviet Union.

The much more likely explanation is that the destruction of Pershing and cruise missiles in Europe will sap the Pentagon's "limited nuclear war" concept underlying U.S. military strategy.

Two or three years ago President Reagan used to talk often about his desire to "eliminate the whole class of intermediate-range missiles", but the Pentagon has always believed that these are indispensable to its plans for nuclear war escalation at a substantial distance from American shores.

An INF agreement is being opposed in the United States not only by generals.

The State Department is seeking to complicate the issue by insisting that the agreement be linked to a simultaneous elimination of theater missiles.

Experts from different American departments are leaning over backwards to think up such "verification measures" as they hope would make the Soviet Union renounce the agreement.

It is also being proposed in the United States that Pershing-2's be modified so that formally they will no longer belong to the medium-range class and so will not be subject for destruction under the future agreement.

Having derailed a number of agreements and scuttled a series of talks aimed at reducing the risk of outbreak of global war, the Reagan administration over the past six years has come to be rightly seen by world opinion as an enemy of all arms control treaties.

By accepting the Soviet INF proposal, which is based on an understanding reached in Reykjavik, the present U.S. Administration would be able not only to mend its reputation but also to make a serious contribution to stronger world peace and stability.

Obukhov Criticizes U.S. Stand

LD261634 Moscow TASS in English 1546 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Geneva March 26 TASS -- As the negotiating group on medium-range nuclear arms completed the present phase of its deliberations, Ambassador-at-Large Aleksey Obukhov, deputy head of the USSR delegation to the Soviet-U.S. negotiations on nuclear and space arms, made the following statement:

"Following the completion of the seventh round of the Soviet-U.S. negotiations on nuclear and space arms, the negotiating group on medium-range nuclear arms continued its work in Geneva from March 6 to March 26.

"The round in that negotiating group was extended by mutual agreement in view of the possibility that had emerged for a radical breakthrough in resolving the problem of medium-range missiles, based on the formula agreed upon at the Reykjavik meeting."

"The way to a treaty on medium-range missiles was opened as a result of a major new Soviet initiative set forth in the February 28 statement by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail S. Gorbachev.

"In that statement a proposal was made to single out the question of the elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe form the block of issues discussed at the negotiations, to conclude a separate agreement on this subject, and do it without delay.

"This Soviet proposal has been put on the table in Geneva. An early conclusion of an accord on medium-range missiles, containing measures for strict verification of compliance with the obligations assumed by the sides, would open up the prospect of completely ridding Europe of nuclear weapons."

"The group has been doing useful work. The sides have started negotiating formulations for inclusion in a joint draft treaty on medium-range missiles.

"Regrettably, what stands in the way of rapid progress in this area is a number of elements in the position of the United States which it knows are unconstructive, efforts by the U.S. side to raise new problems, artificially expanding the scope of issues under discussion.

"It is our hope that adjustments will be made in the U.S. position to free it from everything that is not consistent with the objective of promptly reaching an effective accord on the elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe and on other measures for the limitation and reduction of such Soviet and U.S. missiles."

"The negotiating group has now adjourned for a short recess. It has been agreed that the Soviet-U.S. negotiations on nuclear and space arms will resume on April 23, 1987. Accordingly, the medium-range systems negotiating group will resume its work on that date.

"In this connection it is understood that this date could be adjusted at the upcoming Soviet-U.S. meeting at the level of foreign ministers in Moscow.

"The Soviet side is determined to build upon the Reykjavik accords by seeking to deeply reduce and eliminate nuclear weapons, to prevent an arms race in outer space and to ensure strict compliance with the ABM Treaty Regime."

West Europe Critics Answered

PM261124 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Vikentiy Matveyev article under the rubric "Political Observer's Opinion": "Europe's Say"]

[Text] Diplomatic departments in the major West European capitals have recently been working overtime. Consultations are taking place between London, Paris, and Bonn. A meeting of heads of state and government of the EEC countries is in preparation. Animated debates on foreign policy issues have taken place in the FRG Bundestag and the British Parliament.

In the past, such outbreaks of activity have often been due to acute international crises. Now the reverse is true. A glimmer of light, of special significance to Europe, has appeared on the horizon, which only recently was entirely dark.

The West German newspaper GENERAL ANZEIGER wrote on 21 March, after the 3-day Bundestag debate, that the appeals from Moscow for a "new way of thinking" had a strong influence on the government statement made in the Bundestag by H. Kohl and on a considerable part of the debate.

This debate, like the present diplomatic activity in the West European capitals in general, is focused on the question of the medium-range missiles sited in Europe. The Soviet Union has once again displayed good will by proposing to conclude a separate agreement on this question, separating it from the package of other problems. [paragraph continues]

A USSR-U.S. accord on this question would pave the way for progress also with regard to the shorter-range missiles which exist in Europe.

But how are we to regard those figures in the West who complain that the talks on the elimination of medium-range missiles are supposedly taking place "behind Europe's back" -- as if the Soviet Union was located at the other end of the world and was entering into some kind of conspiracy, rather than being guided by interests of vital importance to all the continent's countries and peoples!

This arbitrary dealing with geography has a political basis. Those same figures try to sow all kinds of doubts about the motives behind the USSR's readiness to achieve accords on the problem of medium-range missiles, just as in general they try to set the public against the idea of such an accord.

It is claimed that such an agreement would place Western Europe in a "vulnerable position." While our country, to meet the wishes expressed at public and state levels, is prepared not to link an agreement on eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe to other problems, the opponents of such an accord insist on not one, but several "linkages," that is, in effect they would like to work toward the blocking of such an accord.

So far, it is a question of individual statements by particular figures. In the first reaction to M.S. Gorbachev's 28 February statement on this question, official circles in Western capitals welcomed the prospect of ridding Europe of an entire class of nuclear missile weapons. But then all kinds of reservations began to be put forward by certain prominent government figures.

It is pointed out that the problem of armed forces and conventional arms in Europe will remain outside the framework of the agreement being discussed between the USSR and the United States. But surely the Soviet side is not saying that this problem should be relegated to the archives? The Warsaw Pact states have made far-reaching proposals directed toward progress in this sphere too. In Vienna, within the framework of the meeting of representatives of states participating in the all-European conference, preliminary consultations have begun on this problem. It is not the socialist countries, but the United States and its NATO partners that display extreme sluggishness, if nothing worse, in this respect.

Following the "tradition" started some years ago, the Pentagon has just published the latest collection of fabrications designed to convince the outside world that the Soviet Union constitutes a "threat." In presenting to journalists this "compilation," which contains 159 pages and is the biggest of all those so far prepared by the Pentagon's propaganda services, Weinberger, the department's chief, claimed that the USSR is preparing a new generation of mobile ICBM's for the mid-nineties. He has "forgotten" one thing: the USSR's repeatedly expressed readiness to move forward, together with the United States, along the path of total elimination of the arsenal of strategic missiles, which, as is well known, was opposed by the Pentagon with all the force that could be mustered by militarist circles across the ocean, who cannot conceive of a future without the arms race.

The Pentagon's latest anti-Soviet fabrication shows that on the question of the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe, influential circles in Washington do not want to move forward, but to mark time. How else can one assess their "proposals" on reequipping the Pershing-2's as shorter-range missiles, so as to leave them inviolate? These so-called "recommendations" from across the ocean should show Western Europe more clearly than anything who wants to perpetuate the continent's transformation into a nuclear powder keg.

The desire of the governments of West European countries to have a say on the problem of eliminating medium-range missiles is natural. It does not matter which countries are concerned: those where there are American missiles, or those where there are not. The problem affects our continent as a whole. The Soviet Union bears this in mind. And of course, we do not think that as a result of the attainment of an accord on this problem a situation will arise where constructive diplomacy will be able to rest on its laurels. Such an accord will create a favorable atmosphere for talks on other topical questions, to whose resolution the European countries can and should make a fitting contribution.

Bessmertnykh on Opposition

WA241500 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 11, 23 Mar 87 pp 3-4

[Article by Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, USSR deputy foreign minister, under the rubric "A Continent Without Missiles": "Solution for Europe"]

[Text] The reaction of government, political and public circles in most countries to the new Soviet proposal was that it offers real hope of long-awaited progress of the nuclear and space arms talks in Geneva. This progress would help solve other problems of global concern. Presidents, including those who had hitherto concentrated on evading agreements rather than reaching them, prime ministers, including those who had made hawkishness a cornerstone of their political careers, ministers, including those notorious for their lobbying against any "agreements with the Russians" -- all or almost all of them have been compelled to respond positively to the new Soviet initiative.

Wherein lies the force of attraction of the Soviet Union's new political action? Why has it aroused such a lively interest worldwide? The answer is as follows: Concrete, clear-cut, and imbued with the desire to remove a pressing problem from the international agenda, the Soviet government's proposal came at a time when the optimism engendered by Reykjavik had started giving way to feelings of alarm and concern. And this was small wonder: The American stand at the Geneva talks all but deadlocked them again. The U.S. representatives declined to register agreed positions even when Soviet and American formulas coincided fully, literally word for word.

Under the circumstances, the Soviet leaders decided to take a purposeful step, which would promise, to begin with, a solution to the complex European nuclear missile problem. The decision to eliminate intermediate-range missiles from Europe and dramatically reduce them (down to 100 warheads) in the Asian part of the U.S.S.R. and on U.S. territory is intended to provide a powerful impetus to negotiations all along the line. This is a logical assumption, for it was on intermediate-range missiles that an agreement was in fact reached at the Reykjavik summit. "The main thing is that we have succeeded in reaching an understanding on delivering the European continent from nuclear missiles," Mikhail Gorbachev said. "An important breakthrough has been made in this aspect of nuclear disarmament as well. The American administration has failed to dodge our persistent effort to get positive results."

Nevertheless, a first positive response to the Soviet initiative across the world does not automatically guarantee a successful outcome. [paragraph continues]

There is still a certain amount of opposition to an agreement on the issue, although its opponents are obviously taking pains not to strike too discordant a note -- which would be to their political disadvantage -- in the atmosphere of unprecedentedly wide approval with which the Soviet proposal has been met. Right-wing forces and all those who have identified with an endless arms race dread the prospect of any progress being made at the Geneva talks, but they are resorting to more refined tactics than usual in their attempts to block it.

The essence of these tactics is to try to dissuade those U.S. and West European political leaders who are now prepared to reach an agreement from doing so (no matter what these leaders' motives might be). The means used towards this end are nothing new.

One method is to sow doubts with regard to Moscow's intentions (THE WASHINGTON POST informed its readers, for instance, that the Soviet proposal was actually a trap).

Another method is to "warn" Europe of the dangers with which the implementation of the Soviet proposal is allegedly fraught. There is persistent talk of the Soviet Union's and the Warsaw Treaty countries' "enormous superiority" in conventional arms, and the "incredible disproportions" in battlefield systems. The U.S. and NATO are advised to build their armaments up to the "appropriate level" first. In short, what we have here is another rerun of a line of reasoning whose tenacity is due not to its inherent logic, but to the persistence with which it is imposed on public opinion.

Prospects of reaching agreement are questioned even by certain figures outside the extreme-right category. More likely than not, they are simply set in their biased attitude towards anything that comes from the Soviet Union -- a reflex conditioned by years of political opposition to Soviet foreign policy initiatives.

Neither does the Soviet proposal suit those in Western Europe who do not wish to part with nuclear weapons, which they rely on for their ambitions and their countries' security.

On the face of it, the U.S. leaders have received Moscow's initiative without the scepticism which is characteristic of them in such cases. President Reagan said he regarded the Soviet proposal as "a major breakthrough on the path towards an agreement for mutual and verifiable reductions in arms between ourselves and the Soviet Union." Even Defence Secretary Weinberger grudgingly admitted that the proposal was "a welcomed development," but added in the same breath: "I think the Soviets want and need an arms reduction agreement, and I think they'll try to get one by insisting that we do things that will strengthen their own position."

The question now is whether U.S. political strategists really want an agreement on intermediate-range missiles in Europe. After all, our comparatively long record of dealing with Americans on problems of arms limitation and reduction has had its ups and downs. Unfortunately, it has been mostly "downs" of late. We know from experience that the U.S. administration's initial approval of this or that Soviet proposal is not necessarily translated into a concrete stand at subsequent negotiations. It often happens that, having paid lip service to public opinion, Washington changes over to obstructing an agreement. Such was the case at the Soviet-American talks in the early eighties, which were divided between strategic arms limitation and reduction, on the one hand, and nuclear arms limitation in Europe, on the other. We came up against a similar situation at the talks on nuclear and space weapons begun in 1985 with their subject and objectives agreed upon in advance.

After we had put forward the Soviet initiative in Geneva as a concrete proposal, the U.S. followed suit with its own draft agreement (which the Americans themselves admitted to be half-baked). If this practical response stands for an intention to coordinate the two sides' mutually acceptable commitments in a businesslike fashion, the talks promise to bring fruitful results.

We shall see soon just how serious Washington is about wanting an agreement. There are a number of more or less accurate indicators of U.S. intentions. The first alarming symptoms are already in sight. According to the British press, U.S. representatives told the ambassadors of NATO countries at a recent Brussels meeting that Washington would not be in too much of a hurry to reach an agreement. Is it going to delay the negotiations using the same old tricks again, such as making a likely agreement conditional on numerous -- and, as a rule, unacceptable -- reservations or reducing certain, even legitimate, demands to absurdity? Or take the issue of control, the ensuring and tightening of which the Soviet Union is particularly interested in, as we have made abundantly clear since Reykjavik. The U.S. may well distort it to the extent of making the other side stop trying.

Yet another trick is to throw in restrictive conditions that would empty the agreement of all sense and meaning.

The Soviet Union will follow the further steps of the U.S. administration closely.

Our policy is to search for bold, quick and feasible ways of strengthening the security of our country, the United States and the nations of Europe. The Soviet proposal for a radical solution of the intermediate-range missiles issue offers just such a way.

NATO Wants Linkage of Talks

LD260102 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] State Department spokesman Charles Redman said that in concluding an agreement on medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, the United States must secure the right to install in Western Europe more short-range missiles or remodel the Pershing-2 missiles already there. Our commentary is by Vladislav Kozyakov:

The State Department spokesman chose to resort to the so-called lag of the United States in the military sphere, something that Washington always does in similar circumstances. Under the draft agreement, however, the United States and NATO would retain a considerable nuclear potential in Western Europe after the elimination of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles there. The United States keeps over 5,000 nuclear charges on its missiles, artillery shells and mines in the region. America's allies, Britain and France, hold hundreds of nuclear missiles and their nuclear weapons are constantly upgraded. The London OBSERVER magazine says that Britain is planning to produce 2,000 more nuclear weapons and among them tactical missiles.

Why are Washington and NATO trying to link the talks on eliminating Soviet and American medium-range missiles with other nuclear weapons in Europe? Having proposed that a separate agreement be reached on medium-range missiles, the Soviet Union said it would be prepared to immediately enter into talks on reducing and eliminating tactical missiles in Europe.

The Soviet Union is prepared to contribute to resolving that problem by withdrawing its tactical missiles with extended range from the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia as soon as an agreement on medium-range missiles is reached. Given good will on the part of the West there is every possibility for reaching an agreement on the problem of shorter-range nuclear weapons in Europe. The Soviet Union has done a great deal to clear the way to an agreement. The problem of eliminating Soviet and American missiles in Europe is not linked now to the nuclear weapons of Britain and France or other disarmament problems. Nor is it linked to the SDI. What is the aim of the United States in trying to establish a link between that problem and other problems of nuclear weapons in Europe? One has the impression that NATO is unwilling to part with nuclear weapons, medium-range or tactical, and that is why it is trying to tie the two problems in with each other.

FOREIGN PRESS CITED ON U.S. LASER ARMS RESEARCH

PM201229 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Mar 87 First Edition p 3

[Military-technical review by Candidate of Technical Sciences Major General V. Belous: "Laser Weapons"]

[Text] The "big stick" policy proclaimed by the U.S. Administration back at the beginning of this century was revitalized after World War II. Based on nuclear weapons, whose strike power has constantly increased, this policy has assumed a large scale these days although it has not yielded Washington the desired dividends. Sensible voices have begun to speak out across the ocean, recognizing that even in the event of delivering a nuclear first strike against the USSR the United States will not be able to escape retribution. He who shoots first dies second -- that is the reality of our time.

It has always been the Pentagon's secret desire to be first to press the button. It was only the prospect of death that deterred it, even the prospect of being second to die. Washington has begun thinking about strike space weapons and "impenetrable defense" in the hope of "overtaking" the Soviet Union and securing decisive military strategic superiority for itself. It is gambling on creating an ABM defense in depth [sozdaniye glubokoeshelonirovannoy protivoraketnoy oborony] with space-based elements. The key role here is assigned to the ABM forward echelon. The weaponry in this echelon is to ensure the guaranteed destruction of Soviet missiles in the boost [aktivnaya] phase of their trajectory.

Stressing the decisive role of the "first stage of defense," G. Keyworth, former adviser to President Reagan, put it in these terms: "If you assess the project's importance on a scale of 10, this work (the creation [sozdaniye] of the first echelon weapons -- V.B. note) should be awarded 10 points with the next most important work worth 5." The attention paid to the initial stage of flight, foreign specialists note, is primarily due to the fact that at that moment before the release of the reentry vehicle, it is possible with a single shot to destroy the missile with all its nuclear warheads and anti-ABM devices.

However, foreign commentators complain, there are serious difficulties impeding the solution of this task which may significantly reduce the reliability of the space defense system. The point is that the boost phase is short. For an MX missile, for instance, the boost phase is completed just 3 minutes after launch at an altitude of around 200 km.

U.S. specialists are setting aside approximately 2 minutes to detect the launch of the Soviet missiles and to take the decision to destroy them. In other words, the Pentagon's strategists regard time as the critical factor in resolving the set task. Hence the conclusion that weapons which strike "with the speed of light," primarily laser weapons, should play the main role in destroying missiles in the boost phase.

The foreign press notes that the work on laser weapons has been conducted for a long time now but that particularly intensive research began in the seventies. However, despite the optimism of General Abrahamson's department (he is director of the SDI program) the creation [sozdaniye] of laser weapons for deployment in space remains highly problematical. The main difficulties that the proponents of SDI have had to face are the great size and weight of the orbiting delivery platforms [platforma-nositel], the difficulty of supplying them with power, the high accuracy and speed required for directing the beam to the target, and so forth. Furthermore, such bulky facilities in space are themselves vulnerable targets.

An earth-and-space-based system is considered to be the alternative to this. The bulky installations and their fuel sources are deployed on earth and the "relay" and "battle" mirrors would be launched into space.

It is proposed to place the 10 meter diameter "relay" mirrors in geostationary orbit and to place the 5-meter diameter "battle" mirrors in orbit at an altitude of around 1,000 km.

Working on the assumption that it will take 100 seconds to destroy missiles in their boost phase and that it will take 5 seconds to transfer the power necessary to hit a single missile, the Pentagon has calculated that a single "battle" mirror will be able to ensure the destruction of 20 missiles in succession. Foreign observers note that it will take at least 70 battle mirrors to prevent a retaliatory attack by Soviet ICBMS. And that is on condition that they are all stationed simultaneously above the USSR's territory. Each "battle" mirror must have a corresponding "relay" mirror. The total number of "battle" mirrors will be between 400 and 420.

The outline of the scheme is as follows. The laser beam from the earth-based installations is directed to the "relay" mirror which redirects the energy beam to the "battle" mirror located above the regions where the enemy's ICBMS are deployed. The "battle" mirror directs the laser beam energy straight onto the missile and destroys it.

A group of U.S. scientists has evaluated the cost of the energy needed for the operation of the earth and space-based system. It transpired that in view of the loss of radiation energy as it passes through the atmosphere the efficiency of the laser installation requires the output of 300 1,000-megawatt power stations. This represents over 60 percent of the U.S. energy system's total capacity.

When the laser beam passes through the atmosphere the loss of energy is extremely high as a result of the scattering and absorption of radiation. In an attempt to reduce that loss U.S. specialists are exploring every conceivable solution. One plan envisages the deployment of lasers on mountain tops at an altitude of 4-5 km above sea level. As the main mass of atmospheric particles is concentrated in a 10-km thick layer around the earth, placing the laser devices at such an altitude will make it possible to reduce the energy loss by 300-400 percent.

However, the effect of atmospheric turbulence still has to be considered (the velocity of the processes of atmospheric turbulence is considerably less than the speed of the dispersion of radiation).

The foreign press is also discussing the following design solution. It is proposed to equip the mirror-bearing satellite, which is placed in geostationary orbit, with a small laser firmly fixed to a 900-meter boom. The laser's pulse beam will be received by the earth laser. The beam, which carries information on the effect of atmospheric turbulence, strikes the earth-based device and alters the phase angle by 180 degrees and, after passing through a series [kaskad] of laser boosters, is highly intensified. Travelling in the opposite direction, the modulated beam compensates for the effect of atmospheric turbulence.

The "relay" and "battle" mirrors are very complex devices. The accuracy of the manufacturer of the mirrors' surface must be commensurate with a certain wave length which presents considerable difficulties, particularly when creating large-diameter mirrors.

There is a further difficulty in that part of the power beam striking the mirror will be absorbed by the structure which will heat up and change its form. This will cause the beam to go out of focus and lose some of its destructive capability. Thus, high-capacity cooling facilities are needed. Let us also mention here the orientation, stabilization, targeting systems and the high-speed computers. The complexity of the plan is obvious and the cost runs into billions of dollars. But is it reliable?

The foreign press leaves these questions unanswered. The main thing is to create an atmosphere of war hysteria, to convince the U.S. taxpayer of the need to contribute more, and to indulge the military-industrial complex. The SDI apologists are in a hurry. They need effective demonstrations. An experiment is planned for June 1987 in which a laser beam will be directed on to a moving target with the help of a mirror deployed in space. Behind all this adventurism there is the Pentagon's irresistable urge to prolong the arms race into the 21st century and make this process irreversible.

NUCLEAR TEST MONITORING EXPERIMENT A SUCCESS

Monitoring Station 'Effective'

LD210052 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 20 Mar 87

[From the "Novosti newscast, V. Lyashko video report]

[Text] A joint Soviet-U.S experiment on monitoring [kontrol] the nonconduct of nuclear tests continues. The experiment is carried out within the framework of an agreement between the USSR Academy of Sciences and the U.S. National Resources Defense Council.

Three monitoring stations have been deployed [razvernutyy] in Kazakhstan, in the region adjacent to the Soviet nuclear testing ground. Assembly of equipment in the specially drilled boreholes has now been completed here. This will make it possible to eliminate the influence of outside interference upon the results of seismic observations. A computer complex which provides the opportunity to analyze in an efficient way the incoming information, has been assembled at the base station. [video shows a long port-a-cabin, then two scientists working at computer terminals]

The main objective of the experiment is to work out a monitoring method for the nonconduct of nuclear tests. The results of Soviet and U.S. scientists' work in the Semipalatinsk region -- and they have been here for more than 6 months -- showed convincingly that effective monitoring methods do exist.

The agreement envisions deploying [razvernut] a similar network of stations in the proximity of the testing ground in Nevada. But for various reasons this has so far been delayed. Here in Kazakhstan, the work goes on in full accordance with the schedule of the experiment.

[D. Berger; identified by screen caption as a geophysicist from the University of California; in English fading to Russian translation] Together with the Soviet scientists we are working successfully on all aspects of the problem. The preparation of three seismic stations in Nevada and California is now being completed. We shall continue this experiment there.

U.S. Scientists Cited

PM231445 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 1

[S. Matayev reportage: "Experiment at the Test Site. Joint Work by Soviet and U.S. Scientists"]

[Text] Kazakh SSR -- The first phase of the Soviet-U.S. scientific experiment to monitor [kontrol] nuclear tests held in the Semipalatinsk region at the consent of the USSR Academy of Sciences and the U.S. Natural Resources Defense Council is over. This is what the American scientists said about its preliminary results.

"First and foremost I must say that the Soviet side wholly fulfilled its commitment to conduct research in he area of nuclear test verification [kontrol] methodology," Professor Berger of the University of California, one of the leaders of the group of U.S. scientists, said. "Thanks to this, the first phase has ended more than successfully. Our ground apparatus was set up near the Soviet test site and observations and hundreds of different recordings were made."

The professor showed me the seissmograms recorded by the U..S. equipment. For almost 8 months these sensitive instruments have recorded the echo of distant tremors and reverberations caused by nuclear explosions in Nevada, but not once in all this time did the automatic recorder register any soil tremors at Semipalatinsk. The Soviet moratorium, as is well known, lasted almost 19 months.

"The recordings we obtained," D. Berger continued, "convince us that international monitoring [kontrol] of tests of nuclear devices is possible and technically feasible. But the accuracy of the results will only increase if underground seismic equipment which completely rules out the effect of extraneous noise on the apparatus is installed. This work is included in the second phase of the experiment. It has started right on schedule Wells 100 meters deep have been drilled to take our monitoring [kontrol] apparatus."

(Jacob Sherr) -- a participant in the international forum "For a Nuclear-Free World, for the Survival of Humanity" -- joined in the conversation.

"Both in Moscow and here, near the Soviet test site, I have once again seen for myself the Soviet leadership's practical steps to keep the world safe from the nuclear threat. After thoroughly examining the seismic station, I have been struck by the work done. I think that there is a real basis for the research producing positive results in the sphere of mutual verification [kontrol]."

(Sherr) knows that it was not easy to ship the equipment for the second phase. Because of some error, if not deliberately, the cargo dispatched from the United States was lost by an international airline. With difficulty it was located in Tokyo and then forwarded to Moscow; from there a special flight took it to Karaganda. A trailer delivered the sensitive apparatus to Karkaralinsk where it got stuck in snowdrifts. But local people, miners vacationing at the "Shakhter" Vacation Center, came to the rescue.

"I was struck by Soviet people's unanimous interest in the holding of the joint experiment and their faith in us American scientists. Unfortunately, not everyone in my homeland knows about the experiment and not everyone realizes the attitude toward us here," (Sherr) said. "We have met with complete mutual understanding in the Soviet Union; we have been allowed to start work near the test site. Yet our Soviet colleagues have not received permission to set up their equipment on U.S. territory. We also regret that our country's administration failed to support the Soviet side's call for a moratorium on all nuclear tests. The tests in Nevada did not stop even during the 18 month silence at the Semipalatinsk test site. Yet we are convinced that our stay here will make some people look more soberly at the real state of affairs.

That is what (John Sharats), a leading specialist in the sphere of computer program development, said. He had come to the Soviet test site as a consultant for a major U.S. firm.

"My trip to Karkaralinsk was no accident, but there was a certain amount of luck associated with it. When I was invited to cooperate, I agreed straightaway. I had long been prepared for it -- I have four children and am not indifferent to their future. Furthermore, I served during the Vietnam war."

"Were you a volunteer?"

"I didn't immediately realize what kind of war it was... I lost a leg there. But even if I'd lost both legs I would still have tried to be here today. There are not many places on earth where representatives of our powers have worked side by side and in agreement. Here, I am profoundly convinced, you can see for yourself for the umpteenth time that the talk about a 'Soviet threat' is utterly groundless and that your country and people really want peace and are persistently seeking ways of finding it."

As is well known, by mutual agreement the experiment is scheduled to take a year. It will end in July.

'UNOFFICIAL CONSULTATIONS' AT MBFR TALKS

LD231429 Moscow TASS in English 1423 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Vienna March 23 TASS -- Regular unofficial consultations between representatives of Warsaw Treaty and NATO countries on questions of reducing armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe were held here today.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON WARSAW PACT MINISTERS MEETING

Loginov News Conference

LD251959 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Report by Sergey Pravdin on news conference at USSR Foreign Ministry press center in Moscow on 25 March by Deputy USSR Foreign Minister Loginov on results of session of the Foreign ministers' Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states; Loginov remarks recorded]

[Text] [Pravdin] Comrade Loginov, deputy USSR foreign minister, addressED the news conference and, in particular, noted that a sincere and thorough exchange of views had taken place at the session on the situation in Europe and the world as a whole. At the focus of this exchange of views were primary issues of today, such as the elimination of the nuclear threat, banning chemical weapons, strengthening European security, and developing cooperation between all countries. Comrade Loginov went on to say:

[Loginov] This morning the ministers were received by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. During the conversation, they spoke of the changes visible in the situation on the European Continent and throughout the world under the influence of the open, honest policy of the socialist countries, and in the interest of the removal of the threat of war and the strengthening of peace and security in the world.

[Pravdin] Having noted the successful work of the participants in the session of the Foreign Ministers' Committee, Comrade Loginov said:

[Loginov] At the session of the Foreign Ministers' Committee it was noted that the Warsaw Pact member states are filled with resolve to struggle for progress and toward the targets attained in the Icelandic capital, to seek profound, radical reductions in and the destruction of nuclear armaments, the prevention of an arms race in space, and the strict observance of the ABM Treaty. There was discussion of the need to do everything to ensure that the accords outlined should be translated into specific agreements on the basis of the continuance and deepening of political dialogue between states.

[Pravdin] Comrade Loginov added:

[Loginov] The Soviet Union's urgent proposal to sign a separate agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States, in accordance with which U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe would be completely scrapped, was supported. The Soviet Union's readiness to remove the increased-range operational and tactical missiles from the territories of the GDR and Czechoslovakia -- of course, by agreement with the governments of these countries -- immediately after the signing of such an agreement met with approval. Our readiness to start talks immediately with a view to reducing and completely scrapping other operational and tactical missiles was supported. It was stated that an early conclusion of an agreement on medium-range missiles would open the way to completely freeing Europe from nuclear weapons.

At the same time, the ministers unanimously spoke out in favcr of urgently halting the implementation of the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative program and the drawing up of similiar plans -- the so-called European Defense Initiative -- and stressed the extremely dangerous consequences of the realization of such plans. They reaffirmed their resolve to seek a complete and universal banning of nuclear tests, and spoke out in favor of talks with a view to signing an agreement on this matter as soon as possible.

The committee session adopted a statement on the question of banning chemical weapons, of declaring the speediest possible end to negotiations on a complete and general banning of chemical weapons -- one of the main aims of the foreing policy of the allied countries. We consider that the essential prerequisites have now been established for a solution to be found as early as the current year, with account being taken of the proposals by the participants in the Geneva disarmament conference to the questions as yet unresolved at the negotiations, and the harmony to result from the completion of an international convention effectively ensuring a complete and universal ban on development [razrabotka] and production of chemical weapons, the elimination of all stocks of them in the near future, and the guarantee that chemical weapons will never be reborn anywhere again.

A real opportunity to eliminate chemical weapons and end forever the chemical threat to all mankind must not be missed. Guided by the wish for a speedy completion to the drafting of a convention banning and eliminating chmeical weapons, all states are called upon -- the committee's document states -- to take no steps that might complicate the attainment of a mutually acceptable accord at the negotiations or to slow their progress.

The states represented at the session consider that 1987, the current year, can and should be the year of the start of total and general chemical disarmament.

Now I should like to broach a question related to a substantial reduction in armed forces and conventional weapons on the European Continent, in accordance with the proposals contained in the Budapest program of the Warsaw Pact member states: The allied countries have agreed that they will continue to most resolutely seek to ensure that these reductions, affecting both military-political alliances in Europe, reach 20 percent of the present level as early as the beginning of the 1990's, with a corresponding reduction in the military expenditure of the states, and to ensure that the process of reductions, makint it possible to reduce, if not completely rule out, the possibility of a surprise attack.

The documents adopted at the session clearly point out that the inviolability of borders and respect for the territorial-political realities that have arisen are essential conditions for maintaining an enduring peace in Europe. Particular attention was devoted to discussion of all aspects of the general European process and the drafting of a course for the allied countries at the Vienna meeting, which will foster its successful completion.

An appeal addressed to all participants in the CSCE was adopted, calling on them to direct their efforts toward ensuring that the Vienna meeting completes its work by adopting meaningful and balanced decisions.

[Pravdin] Noting the great importance of the documents adopted at the Foreign Ministers' meeting of the Warsaw Pact member-states in Moscow, Comrade Loginov said:

[Loginov] All these three documents are imbued with one concern: to strengthen and preserve peace; to ward off the threat of nuclear war looming over mankind; and to develop and strengthen normal, civilized relations between states, irrespective of their social systems.

[Pravdin] At the conclusion of the news conference, Comrade Loginov replied to questions from journalists. Replying, in particular, to a question from an UNSERE ZEIT correspondent, on the way the socialist countries perceive restructuring in the USSR, Comrade Loginov said:

[Loginov] I can say that the statement by the foreign ministers at their meeting -- or rather at all meetings during this session, since there was not only the plenary session, but of course meetings and conversations in the corridors, meetings in the experts' groups, and finally the meeting with the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee -- it was noted everywhere that the decisions of the January Central Committee Plenum are being received with approval by the socialist countries.

I would like to immediately mention another matter: Our course toward restructuring, which is indeed being received with approval by the socialist countries, is an internal affair of our party. We are conducting it within the country, as far as domestic policy is concerned. As for foreign policy, the entire world feels it, and we are not imposing it upon anybody. It is the business of every party, of every country and of every people to decide how to act in its own house. And I repeat: We are not imposing it upon anybody, and therefore the fact that the socialist countries are greeting with approval the decisions of the January plenum of the CPSU Central Committee pleases us.

[Pravdin] Replies also were given to other questions from journalists at the news conference.

PRV's Orzechowski Reaction

LD251946 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] [Correspondent Stefanowicz] This is Witold Stefanowicz from Moscow. The 2-day session of the Foreign Ministers' Committee of the Warsaw Pact member-states ended at 1330 GMT. Mikhail Gorbachev met with the participants this morning. Just after the session, I spoke with Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs Marian Orzechowski:

[Begin Orzechowski recording] I would say that this conversation was the farthest removed from any formal protocol. This actually was a conversation between the CPSU leader, the leader of a great state, and the foreign affairs ministers of the socialist community about the most important matters for us all, for [words indistinct] and the world. It was also about matters of peace, about matters of disarmament, about a reduction of tension, about the connection between events within our countries and events in the Soviet Union -- which is called reconstruction [przebudowa] and which we at home call renewal -- and international policies, and our desires for peace, detente, and the creation of a safe world, a world without atomic weapons and the specter of nuclear catastrophe. This was a conversation about what should be done so that our efforts, our desires, our wishes -- which correspond to the wishes of all humanity -- actually will become a material force, a material fact; it was a meeting about how to perfect our cooperation, how to get through to all the people, to all groups and social (?parties), to all continents and to all states with our (?matters); how to make use of them for this straightforward, and I would say elementary and fundamental conception. The world of the future can only be a world without war, a world of peace, a world of cooperation, a world of secure existence for all. [end recording]

GDR's Fischer Comments on Talks

LD251815 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1704 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, 25 Mar 87 (ADN) -- After the meeting of the Warsaw Treaty member states Foreign Ministers' Committee in Moscow, GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer told newsmen today that the consultations had centered on basic questions of safeguarding peace, freeing mankind from nuclear and other armaments, and consolidating security in Europe and throughout the world. There had been an internsive and constructive exchange of views on this, as was usual among the allied socialist states.

The most important result of the consultations was the complete agreement among the fraternal states to continue their peace offensive dynamically in accordance with the decisions of the Budapest meeting of the Political Consultative Committee. The socialist states want concrete results, especially in the area of disarmament. This was expressed in the documents adopted by the meeting: the communique, the document on the continuation of the CSCE process and on the successful conclusion of the Vienna meeting, and the statement on a chemical weapons ban.

The signing without delay of a separate agreement on the elimination of the USSR's and the United States' medium-range missiles in Europe was assessed as being particularly urgent. The socialist fraternal states thought such a step, as proposed by Mikhail Gorbachev, could be a real breakthrough in efforts to safeguard peace. Therefore, it was natural for the GDR to support this initiative effectively with its own contributions. As is known, Erich Honecker had appealed to FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl to press the Western alliance to accept the latest Soviet offer.

The result of the meeting was a renewed commitment by the Warsaw Pact member states to dialogue and dialogue and cooperation with all forces of reason and realism.

CSSR's Chnoupek Reviews Topics

LD260036 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Interview with CSSR Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek by station permanent correspondent Stefan Simak in Moscow on 25 March at the conclusion of the regular session of Warsaw Pact foreign ministers; Simak and Chnoupek both speak in Slovak -- recorded]

[Text] [Simak] At the session, you spoke in detail about the most important problems of our time: Averting the nuclear threat, elimination of nuclear weapons, and reinforcing European and general security. Comrade minister, where do you see the key to tackling these problems?

[Chnoupek] This 10th jubilee session of the Foreign Ministers' Committee was exceptional with regard to the three areas you have mentioned. It was quite strongly influenced by the atmosphere of democratization which dominates (?this sphere) and which manifests itself in domestic and foreign policy. In this sense I was impressed by the reception of General Secretary Comrade Gorbachev, who devoted a lot of time to us -- 3 hours -- where, in an informal and lively discussion we spoke about these three issues. The general secretary said clearly that the USSR wants to follow consistently, in the sphere of foreign policy and disarmament, this principled, flexible path of solving the nuclear threat to the world and Europe.

I think that this basic thesis was reflected in the entire deliberations of the Foreign Ministers' Committee, where everybody could voice his views freely and democratically, and this led to a unified viewpoint expressed on the continuation of the all-European process, on the positive results of the Vienna meetings, and on the issue of chemical weapons. As stated in the document, the treaty on the elimination of chemical weapons could be signed this year; we have gone that far. What matters in Vienna is to give a relevant mandate to the talks on the very important issues of conventional disarmament, as we suggested in Budapest, and all this is marked by the magnanimous proposal of the USSR, described by many of us as the turning point, that is the proposal for the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe.

[Simak] How did you assess the attitude of the United States and the other Western countries on this proposal?

[Chnoupek] We stressed in particular that the proposal submitted by the USSR is fully in agreement with the principles of the Soviet peace policy. The democratization of this policy also rests in the fact that a nuclear superpower wants to give up voluntarily a nuclear monopoly. A number of European states realized what the nuclear threat really is -- and realistic politicians, too -- and we do not even need to mention the European general public, which accepts its spontaneously.

We also said, and I stressed this a while ago, that we believe this is the turning point in the area of disarmament policy, and that it is a proposal with a realistic chance of attaining a specific result. On the other hand, as we have pointed out, on the basis of our Czechoslovak experience, those who years ago fought hardest for the so-called zero option today do not even try to hide the fact that they actually were bluffing and that they proposed these ideas with the aim to lead the policy of the socialist countries up a blind alley. We also added that we think that should this succeed, it could affect the entire scale of disarmament talks: in Geneva, in Vienna, it could affect the entire atmosphere of these talks and it actually could bring about a sort of chain reaction in the entire disarmament policy.

[Simak] The West sometimes describes the changes going on in the USSR and the rest of the socialist countries as an adaptation to an international economic boom [medzinarodna konjuktura]. Have you discussed that too?

[Chnoupek] We paid particular attention to this topic. I think that I will not reveal any secret when I say that Comrade Gorbachev, too, spoke at length to us on this topic. It was stressed unequivocally, whether at the Kremlin table or at the table of the Foreign Ministry Committee, that this is a principled, irrevocable, peaceful and realistic policy; the return to Leninist ideas of the policy of peace, the policy of peaceful coexistence, the policy of the reduction of tension. This is not Bolshevik propaganda, or an economic boom. This is a long-term, promising and permanent path.

Chemical Weapons Ban Statement

LD261017 Moscow TASS in English 0957 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 26 TASS -- Follows the full text of the statement on the issue of a ban on chemical weapons, which was adopted at the meeting of the Foreign Ministers' Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states held in Moscow on March 24-25:

S t a t e m e n t [spacing as received]

By the Warsaw Treaty member-states
On the issue of a ban on chemical
weapons

Proceeding from the interests of strengthening international peace and general security, of ensuring disarmament, the Warsaw Treaty member-states resolutely declare for a ban on chemical weapons, for scrapping the existing stocks of such weapons and the industrial base for their production. One of the main objectives of their foreign policy is the speediest completion of talks on a full and universal ban on chemical weapons.

The major initiatives advanced by the socialist states in order to accelerate and invigorate the talks, the proposals of the other countries participating in the diarmament conference have made it possible to eliminate many obstacles in the way to drawing up a mutually acceptable agreement. The necessary prerequisites have been created for completing, with due regard for the proposals of the participants in the Geneva disarmament conference to settle the outstanding issues at the talks already this year, the work to hammer an international convention that would effectively ensure a full and universal ban on the development and production of chemical weapons, scrapping all of its stocks soon and guarantee that they will never be revived anywhere. The real opportunity to eliminate chemical weapons, to put an end forever to the chemical threat to the whole mankind shall not be missed.

A serious obstacle in the way to the attainment of this goal are the plans to produce and deploy in Europe a particularly dangerous binary type of those weapons. These plans are in conflict with the demands of the world community and the U.N. decisions on the need for an ban and scrapping of nuclear weapons.

The allied socialist states will further do on their part everything in their power to conclude a convention most speedily. To find solutions at the talks on questions which yet hamper the completion of work on the convention, they have put forward fresh proposals at the disarmament conference concerning the announcement of the chemical weapons deposts, ensuring non-production of such weapons in the civilian chemical industry, exercise of control, including international control in places and check-ups at request.

The allied socialist states stand for ridding Europe, its individual regions of chemical weapons. They reaffirm their support for the initiatives made by the GDR and Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Romania on the establishment of zones, respectively in Central Europe and the Balkans, free from chemical weapons -- the zones in which the deployment, testing, production, acquisition and stockpiling of such weapons would be banned -- as a major contribution to the effort to avert the threat of chemcial weapons' use.

Proceeding from their principled position the Warsaw Treaty member-states stand for imposing the toughtest system of verification, including international verification, to monitor the compliance of the signatory states with their commitments under the convention. They reaffirm their readainess to seek on that basis mutually acceptable solutions to issues related to the observance of the convention by all the parties and to the build-up of trust among its signatories.

Guided by their striving for an early completion of the effort to draft the convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons and on their destruction, and for the creation of the necessary conditions for that, the states represented at the meeting are urging all states:

-- To refrain from all steps that could complicate the attainment of mutually acceptable accords at the talks of slow down their progress;

-- Not to produce chemical weapons, including their binary or multi-component types, not to deploy chemical weapons on foreign territories, to withdraw them from those foreign territories where they have already been deployed, and the states which have no chemical weapons on the territory -- to prevent their deployment.

To ensure resolute progress toward an agreement on the elimination of chemical arsenals it is especially important now that all parties to the talks demonstrate political will, realism and lofty responsibility.

The Warsaw Treaty member-states are emphatically urging the NATO countries and all participants in the conference on disarmament to work together with them in order to overcome by join efforts the remaining obstacles at the talks, complete the drafting of the convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons in the current year so as to embark shortly on the complete elimination of chemical weapons and the industrial base for their manufacture everywhere.

The states represented at the meeting believe that 1987 can and must become a year of the beginning of complete and general chemical disarmament.

Call for Vienna Meeting Success

PM251736 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "For the Development of the All-European Process and the Successful Conclusion of the Vienna Meeting"]

[Text] The foreign ministers of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, the USSR, and the CSSR note that the Vienna meeting of representatives of states participating in the CSCE has entered a phase of crucial actions and decisions in order to agree and draw up weighty accords across the whole spectrum of the Helsinki Final Act as a unified whole, accords aimed at promoting the further practical implementation of its provisions.

The ministers again confirm their countries' adherence to the further development and deepening of the all-European process, which is capable of strengthening detente and making it universal in scope. This would make it possible to build and develop relations between the participating states on the lasting and reliable basis of all the principles of the Helsinki Final Act with a view to improving the life of all people and of each person individually, so that they may enjoy the benefits of peace and look to tomorrow with confidence.

Under present-day conditions, they see it as the main task of the Vienna meeting to raise the all-European process to a qualitatively new level, to make it more dynamic, and to promote the development of cooperation among the CSCE states in the sphere of security and in the political, economic, and humanitarian fields.

The ministers believe that the proposals of the participants in the Vienna meeting should accord with these tasks and that at that forum pressing problems should be disussed, problems which are of most concern to the peoples of the continent and to every person, such a disarmament, the safeguarding of peace and security, the strengthening of confidence, and the expansion of cooperation in all spheres.

I. Proceeding from the particular necessity to promote disarmament in Europe and the reduction of armed forces and conventional arms, the ministers noted that the accords reached at the first stage of the Conference on Confidence and Security Building measures and Disarmament in Europe orient the participating states to the transition to an integrated system embracing measures to strengthen confidence and security and disarmament measures. They discussed these questions in detail in the light of the Budapest appeal of the Warswaw Pact member-states and the proposals put forward by the socialist countries at the Vienna meeting on the transition to concrete talks on a substantial reduction in armed forces and conventional arms in Europe -- from the Atlantic to the Urals -- within the framework of an appropriate forum or conference. They believe that questions of security and disarmament should be examined and resolved within the framework of the all-European process. In this context, the proposal put forward at the Vienna meeting by the states represented at the session on amending the mandate of the Stockholm conference in such a way that disarmament questions also are discussed there in concrete terms was reaffirmed.

Such talks would be conducted in parallel with the elaboration of those confidence-building measures on which agreement was not reached at the initial stage of the Stockholm conference or which may be put forward in the future, including the gradual reduction of military activity, especially that of the two military alliances, notification of independent exercises by air forces and naval forces, the application of confidence-building measures to the territories of all the countries participating in the CSCE, and other confidence and security measures. At the same time another subject of consideration would be fundamentally new measures to strengthen confidence and military-strategic stability in Europe directly connected with the reduction of armed forces, conventional arms, and military spending, which would facilitate the attainment of accords and lead to the establishment of military equilibrium at the most basic level.

The states represented at the session advocate the active participation of neutral and nonaligned countries in the examination of the military aspects of European security at all stages, and believe that these countries -- in view of their positive role in the all-European process -- could make a tangible contribution to the cause of disarmament in Europe, too.

The commencement of unofficial consultations among representatives of the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries taking part in the Vienna meeting was a new feature. The states represented at the session hope that these consultations will promote the resolution of questions relating to the transition to concrete talks on the reduction of armed forces and conventional arms in Europe, and on the understanding that a decision on the mandate for these talks should be taken in the course of the Vienna meeting and should be reflected in its concluding document.

On the basis of equal rights, balance and reciprocity, and identical respect for the security interests of all the CSCE states, the Warsaw Pact member-states are prepared to seek mutually acceptable approaches to future talks on the reduction of armed forces and conventional arms on an all-European scale.

The conclusion of the Vienna meeting with weighty, concrete results would create a more favorable atmosphere for progress at the talks where questions of nuclear arms limitation and reduction and of preventing the placement of weapons in space are being discussed, as well as for the implementation of initiatives to create zones free from nuclear and chemical weapons on the continent.

II. The ministers noted that an important component of European security is the development of the entire range of economic ties and cooperation among the CSCE states. Such ties are the material foundation of detente, security, and peace in Europe.

The further development and deepening of the all-European process is promoted by the socialist states' initiatives on convening an economic forum in Prague, a conference on scientific and technical cooperation in Bucharest, and an ecological forum. The other proposals work in the same direction -- proposals on questions of expanding and enriching with new forms economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, production sharing, and the transfer of technology, as well as on the removal of obstacles in the path of trade and economic exchanges among the CSCE states.

The Warsaw Pact countries note the submission by many other CSCE states of proposals on all aspects of the "second basket," and are prepared carefully to examine them with a view to finding mutually acceptable solutions.

III. The Warsaw Pact states regard cooperation in the humanitarian sphere as an important element of the all-European process and the creation of a comprehensive system of international peace and security. They advocate broad collaboration in this sphere. It is their conviction that everything should be done to safeguard man's right to live and work in conditions of peace and freedom and the full implementation of political, civil, economic, social, and cultural rights in their totality and interdependence, with respect for the sovereignty of states.

The interests of peace and the creation of a climate of confidence, mutual respect, and friendship among peoples require an end to all attempts to propagate anticommunism and preach racism and chauvinist and nationalist theses.

The goals of ahcieving progress over the whole range of humanitarian questions in all the CSCE countries in accordance with the Helsinki Final Act are served by the proposal to convene in Moscow a conference on the development of humanitarian cooperation, which would make it possible to examine the totality of questions of cooperation in this area among the participating states. The Warsaw Pact member-states call on all the CSCE countries to take a favorable attitude to the convening of a humanitarian conference, and advocate that an all-round discussion, oriented toward practical results, take place at that forum.

The further development and deepening of the all-European process in the spheres of contacts, information, culture, and education also are the aims of the joint proposals of socialist and other countries, including the proposal on convening a symposium in Krakow on their cultural heritage, Hungary's initiative on encouraging the translation, publication, and dissemination of literature created in the less widespread languages of the participating states, and Romania's proposals on convening conferences on the education and training of cadres and on questions of crime, alcoholism, and drug abuse. With the same objective, the socialist countries have put forward a number of proposals aimed at resolving other topical questions, such as unemployment, illiteracy, the situation of young people, equality for women, and cooperation in the sphere of the mass media.

The states represented at the session will seek to achieve mutually acceptable accords with the other CSCE countries on questions relating to humanitarian issues.

The Warsaw Pact member states appeal to all those states participating in the CSCE to make efforts to ensure that the Vienna meeting concludes its work by adopting balanced decisions that are rich in content.

They are fully determined to do everything to ensure that the Vienna meeting takes place in a constructive, businesslike spirit and that its decisions are a manifestation of the new way of thinking in international affairs and will promote the strengthening of peace and security and the development of cooperation on the European continent and throughout the world.

Meeting Ends; Ministers Depart

LD251518 Moscow TASS in English 1511 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- The session of the Foreign Ministers Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member countries ended in Moscow today.

Later in the day the following ministers of foreign affairs left Moscow: Peter Mladenov, of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Peter Varkonyi, of the Hungarian People's Republic, Oskar Fisher, of the German Democratic Republic, Marian Orzechowski, of the Polish People's Republic, Ioan Totu, of the Socialist Republic of Romenia, and Bohuslav Chnoupek, of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

At Sheremetyevo Airport they were seen off by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, by official representatives of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by the ambassadors of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, and Romania, and by charge d'affaires ad interim of Czechoslovakia to the Soviet Union.

IZVESTIYA Publishes 'Communique'

PM251701 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 4

["Communique of a Session of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers' Committee"]

[Text] A routine session of the Warsaw Pact member states' Foreign Ministers' Committee on friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance was held on 24-25 March 1987 in Moscow.

The session was attended by P. Mladenov, foreign minister of the Bulgarian People's Republic; P. Varkonyi, foreign minister of the Hungarian People's Republic; O. Fischer, foreign minister of the GDR; M. Orzechowski, foreign minister of the Polish People's Republic; I. Totu, foreign minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania; E.A. Shevardnadze, foreign minister of the USSR; and B. Chnoupek, foreign minister of the CSSR.

1. The foreign ministers exchanged opinions on the state of affairs in Europe and in the world in general. The discussion focused on the cardinal questions of the present day -- eliminating the nuclear threat, ridding mankind of the burden of nuclear and other armaments, strengthening European and world security, and developing international cooperation.

The session participants expressed their states' concern at the continuing complex international situation resulting from the intensification of the arms race, above all the nuclear arms race, because of U.S. and NATO actions and stressed the need to increase and combine the efforts of all states for the purpose of disarmament and to strive resolutely for the creation of a nuclear-free and nonviolent world.

The session noted that the major proposals put forward by the Soviet Union in Reykjavik signify a qualitatively new approach to disarmament problems and are a further extension of the program for establishing a nuclear-free world contained in the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's 15 January 1986 statement. The Warsaw Pact member states are fully determined to struggle for movement forward from the positions reached in the Icelandic capital, to achieve deep, radical cuts in and the destruction of nuclear weapons, to prevent the arms race from entering space, and to ensure strict observance of the ABM Treaty conditions. Everything must be done to turn the outlined accords into concrete agreements. In this regard, they again advocated the continuation and deepening of political dialogue between states.

The states represented at the session stressed the need for the immediate signing of a separate USSR-U.S. agreement whereby U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe would be completely eliminated. They support the Soviet Union's proposal on this score and welcome its willingness, the moment such an agreement is signed, to withdraw the increased-range operational and tactical missiles from the GDR and the CSSR by agreement with those countries' governments. As for other operational and tactical missiles, the USSR is prepared to embark right away on talks aimed at reducing and completely eliminating them. The speediest conclusion of an agreement on medium-range missiles would pave the way for completely ridding Europe of nuclear weapons.

The session participants advocated an immediate end to the implementation of SDI and to the development of projects like the "European Defensive Initiative," in view of the extremely dangerous consequences of the implementation of such plans.

The Warsaw Pact states confirm their determiniation to seek a complete and general ban on nuclear tests and advocate starting talks aimed at concluding an agreement on this matter as soon as possible.

2. The session thoroughly examined questions connected with promoting the proposals contained in the Warsaw Pact member states' Budapest Appeal. They reaffirmed their determination to substantially reduce armed forces and conventional armaments on the European Continent in such a way that the reductions, applying to both military political alliances, reach 25 percent by the beginning of the nineties compared to the present level, with a corresponding reduction in states' military expenditure, and that the reduction process continues in the future.

3. The allied socialist states advocate the gradual reduction of the level of military confrontation in Europe, with the constant maintenance of military equilibrium at an increasingly lower level. They believe that, wherever imbalance exists in any elements, it is necessary to remedy the situation via appropriate reductions. [paragraph continues]

The Warsaw Pact states attach great importance to the premise that the reduction of the level of military confrontation should be accompanied by measures primarily in the area of arms reductions, which would make it possible to reduce, if not to fully rule out, the chance of surprise attack.

4. The ministers emphasized their states' desire to achieve positive results at the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

5. The conference participants believe that the creation of nuclear and chemical weapon-free zones in the Balkans and in the center, the north, and other parts of the continent would accord with the goals of reducing military confrontation in Europe and strengthening all-European security. They declared their countries' determination to aim for implementation of the proposals made on this account by the GDR and the CSSR and by the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Bulgarian People's Republic.

6. The Warsaw Pact member states advocate that the agreements being elaborated on questions of disarmament should make provision for a rigorous and efficient system of monitoring [kontrol] to correspond with the essence of disarmament measures, right up to on-site inspections. [inspektsii].

7. The conference participants emphasized that the inviolability of borders and respect for prevailing territorial and political realities are a necessary condition for the preservation of lasting peace in Europe. The activity of revanchist forces, primarily in the FRG, and the encouragement of revanchism anywhere are a threat to peace and international security.

8. The Warsaw Pact member states are fully determined to aim, in collaboration with other countries, for the shaping of an all-embracing system of international peace and security, and will continue to assist in the expansion and deepening of international cooperation in all areas -- military, political, economic, and humanitarian -- for the purpose of creating such a system. The spread of constructive dialogue within the world community -- both bilateral and multilateral -- about the foundations of a safe world for all would make it possible to define the most efficient ways and specific measures to restructure international relations in line with the aspirations of all peoples under the realities of the nuclear and space age.

9. The conference participants emphasized again the need for all states to strictly respect the principles of national independence and sovereignty, the nonuse of forced or the threat of force, the inviolability of borders and territorial integrity, the peaceful solution of disputes, noninterferene in internal affairs, equality, and other principles and goals of the UN Charter, the Helsinki Final Act, and other universally recognized norms of international relations.

10. The ministers discussed in detail the course of the Vienna meeting of CSCE representatives, which is meant to provide a new stimulus to the all-European process, and adopted a statement on this question.

11. The conference participants examined the question of banning chemical weapons and adopted an appropriate statement.

12. The ministers examined and agreed on specific measures aimed at strengthening the Warsaw Pact member states' unity and cohesion and their friendly, allied relations and at reinforcing their collaboration in the implementation of coordinated policy for the purpose of disarmament, the strengthening of peace, and broad international cooperation.

The Foreign Ministers' Committee conference proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and comradely cooperation. The next session will be held in Prague.

CEMA STATISTICS OFFICIAL DESCRIBES NEW SYSTEM

AU231033 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 16 Mar 87 p 6

[Interview with Oleg Kuzmin, CEMA Secretariat Statistical Department "adviser," by Marin Kyosev; in Moscow, date not given]

[Text] Moscow, specially for OTECHESTVEN FRONT: The emminetly important role played by statistics in national economic management is common knowledge. Statistics are becoming increasingly important at the present stage of development in particular, when the interaction between the fraternal countries in implmenting the comprehensive program for scientific-technical progress is being intensified. The establishment of a special statistical information system was discussed at the recent session of the CEMA Executive Council. It will permit the progress of the implementation of this unique cooperation program to be monitored.

We interviewed Oleg Kuzmin, adviser of the CEMA Secretariat Statistical Department, on the essence and significance of this control system. He said:

As you know, there are 93 basic problems on which detailed programs, including approximately 2,800 papers, are being worked out in connection with the five priority trends of the CEMA comprehensive program. Nearly 1,500 of the most competent scientific-research and drafting-design organizations and production trusts of the 10 CEMA member-states are engaged in their implementation. The mutual cooperation of this large group is aimed at making the most efficient use of the existing enormous scientific-production potential for the practical implementation of the large-scale program known as the Comprehensive Program of Scientific-Technical Progress.

A special information system is being set up for control over the implementation of the program. This system will provide information on the progress of the work to the CEMA Executive Committee and individual CEMA organs simultaneously. The system consists of three sections. The first includes data describing the organizational conditions for the implementation of the program. The other two sections deal with the final results -- that is, with the application of new technical equipment in production and the application of new technologies and raw materials. At the same time, this system will help to strengthen contractual discipline considerably and it will improve the quality and standard of production and assembled goods, as well as of components, which are the result of increasingly intensified specialization and scientific production sharing.

The new system will begin to operate in part in 1987. I say in part because the complexity of the task means that there are certain unresolved problems. The elaboration of certain lists of articles, reflecting the tasks arising from the detailed programs on the five priority trends of the comprehensive program, is still to be done. The basic new element in this connection is the fact that special emphasis is placed on control over production goods which are the result of production sharing and specialization under the comprehensive program.

Implementation of this unique program for scientific-technical progress is currently the chief trend in CEMA activities. That is why the importance of current and full information, which helps to accelerate interaction in solving today's key problems, is increasing in an extraordinary way.

BULGARIA'S MARINOV CALLS FOR CEMA 'OVERHAUL'

LD251620 Moscow TASS in English 1439 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- Multilateral cooperation of the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) needs overhaul, said Marin Marinov (Bulgaria), CMEA deputy secretary. He met a group of foreign journalists in the CMEA secretariat today. Their visit to the USSR was sponsored by the International Radio and Television Organization.

Without watering down great achievements in socialist economic integration, what has been built thanks to businesslike interaction of the CMEA countries, we give ourselves an account that the modern rates of social production intensification call for upgrading cooperation.

Work to restructure economic mechanisms is in full cry in all CMEA countries now. Correspondingly, the mechanisms of our scientific, technological and economic cooperation should also be streamlined.

Concrete recommendations for reorganisation are still being elaborated. But we can speak about its key directions even now. It is vital first and foremost to draw enterprises and economic organisations into the process of economic integration, Marinov said. We will put emphasis on an all-round extension of direct links and cooperation schemes among them.

Bringing closer the CMEA countries' national economic mechanisms will allow them to refine also economic mechanisms of cooperation. Price setting, monetary and financial relations and other economic levers should arouse the CMEA countries' greater interest in broadening and deepening all forms of cooperation.

The bodies of the [Council for] Mutual Economic Assistance should also be converted to the activity which has relation to streamlining the economic levers. They should be relieved of operations functions, Marinov concluded.

EEC-CEMA 2-DAY SYMPOSIUM OPENS IN HAMBURG

LD232101 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] A 2-day symposium on the theme of new prospects for relations between the EEC and CEMA member countries opened in Hamburg, a large FRG industrial center today. Also taking part are representatives of socialist states. It is being stressed at the symposium that despite differences in sociopolitical structure, the East and West should strive for greater mutual understanding and deepening of mutually beneficial cooperation. It is being noted at the meeting that fresh opportunities for this are opened up by the restructuring being implemented in the Soviet Union, which will make it possible to impart greater flexibility to trade and economic ties between the Soviet Union and foreign partners.

MAXIMOV CASTIGATES 'FOSSILIZED' U.S. TRADE POLICY

LD261654 Moscow March 26 TASS -- TASS Commentator Yuriy Maximov writes:

When it adopted the "Truman Doctrine" 40 years ago, the U.S. Government used it as a tool to mount a campaign against world communism in all directions.

After beginning with political moves, the United States very soon launched also an economic cold war against the Soviet Union and American exports to this country began to dwindle.

The objective of the aggressive U.S. economic policy was not concealed: It was to slow down economic progress in the USSR by means of a trade blockade.

Over the subsequent decades U.S. discriminatory policy has not undergone any fundamental change. Washington has kept its fossilized views on trade with the Soviet Union to this day.

Just like 40 years ago, the United States is still attempting to use trade as a lever for political pressure on the USSR.

The paradoxical nature of this policy is obvious. The past decades have repeatedly demonstrated it to be totally untenable.

The Soviet Union has proved to be quite able of coping with its economic tasks, let alone the tasks of strengthening its defenses, independently.

The policy of boycotts and sanctions has been doing substantial material, moral and political damage primarily to the United States itself.

But the echoes of the "Truman Doctine" are still being heard. As a result, Soviet economic managers' trust in their American partners is being eroded and preference given to trade with countries other than the United States.

Facts testify, however, that a no small part of the U.S. businessmen are interested in broader trade with the USSR to mutual advantage.

Some of them believe that trade between the two countries could grow to 50 billion dollars a year by the end of the century, as compared with two billion now.

This can only happen, however, if there is the political will.

The two economic giants, the Soviet Union and the United States, are quite capable of living and developing without doing any trade with each other. This is in effect what they are doing at present and there is no economic tragedy in the fact.

But politically, the situation is clearly abnormal since in this fragile world trade and business cooperation are serious factors for stabilizing international relations. This fact must not be neglected.

FALIN VIEWS WICK, USIA 'PROPAGANDA DEPARTMENT'

LD251521 Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- According to the recent statement by Charles Wick, head of the U.S. foreign propaganda department USIA, the development of glasnost (public openness) in the Soviet Union is a grave threat to the security of the United States. The newspaper "MOSCOW NEWS" (No 13) carries the text of that speech and the answer to it by Valentine Falin, chairman of the board of the NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY.

The USIA director, Valentin Falin points out, is looking at all things happening around him, in the first place at the current change in the Soviet society, from the propaganda entrenchment dug out by his own self. Our drive for more democracy and glasnost is worse than a stab in the back to him. Charles Wick will be very much content with the current reogranization in the USSR end in a change of words and wrapping. [sentence as received] But the decisins of the 27th Congress of the CPSU have been taken in earnest and for good.

This is not a "propaganda effort" designed to impress somebody, as the USIA chief is in vain trying to picture things. The drive for more democracy and public openness is the very same socialism for the sake of human beings, to which we are leading things and which the Soviet people need.

It looks like Charles Wick would like to think that by acting from the "positions of strength" the United States would be able to prevent or at least hamper the implementation of the Soviet plans. He even alludes how Washington is going to do that and what the initiatives outlined by the USA for "preserving advantage for America in the global 'war of ideas' would look like. If everything that is new about the initiatives advertised by Charles Wick reduces to slandering our demand for more social justice as some "false justice", friendship and mutual respect among nations as "false brotherhood" and so on, and so forth, this means that the political and ideological baggage of the American rulers is very poor, the author points out. [quotation marks as received]

Charles Wick makes it clear graciously that he is ready to change his opinion about the Soviet Union should our country become like the United States, certainly, in its domestic system above all, and the rest will come by itself. Then the American neoglobalist policy in Central America, in the Middle and Near East, in Africa and in Asia will be taken by us for "concern for democracy" and the Chilean and the South Korean military dictatorships, which sprang up with Washington's direct participation -- for the incarnation of the dream of freedom.

As a true "democrat", who got used to "examining" other peoples, Charles Wick has made up a list of questions to which we will have to answer so that they overseas stop picturing us as an "empire of evil" or at least that the man in the street should not be frightened with the Soviet Union as happened a short time ago in the notorious serial "Amerika".

But how much longer will they repeat doing the same things? Seven decades ago the USA was trying to tell us what we were expected to do. After the Americans others were trying to establish a new order in our country. Why repeat one's own and other people's mistakes? It would be better for them to prepare for openness and more democracy. But not in publicity show style for deriving profit. Since glasnost (openness) i.e., the truth, is not a commodity purchased and sold at a reasonable price. Unlike "Irangate" and many other things, in which the United States is so rich today, Valentin Falin says in conclusion.

Sturua Hits VOA 'Falseness'

PM231137 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Melor Sturua article: "Cracked Bell"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The erosion of bourgeois democracy in the United States did not start with Reagan. But this process has accelerated visibly under his administration. A report by the American Civil Liberties Union organization states: "Equality before the law is by no means a priority in Reagan's America. We are dealing for the first time with an administration which seems to be firmly opposed to the key legal and political principles on which the U.S. Constitution is founded. The administration is not just opposed to certain freedoms for certain peoples or groups -- it is conducting an offensive against the whole constitutional system set up more than 200 years ago."

Naturally, U.S. ruling circles which suppress inside the country the rights proclaimed by their own Constitution find it much more difficult to export the myth of the "promised land." As THE NEW YORK TIMES commentator Reston writes, "many thinking men and women are arriving at the conclusion that the American political system is unjust, and others that the entire capitalist system is unjust." An interesting admission!

The harder it becomes to praise yourself, the more you curse others. This natural law can be traced clearly in the activities of American propaganda services waging "psychological warfare" against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Never before have the "cold war" knights conducted such a massive offensive against world public opinion. VOA -- that "New Jersey" of the world of slander -- literally pounds the air with its 16-inch guns. USIA staffer Margaret Jaffie reported an interesting fact. It turns out that right at the start broadcasting to the socialist countries was carried out using a transmitter "inherited from the Nazis," and it served for 30 more years. Of course, Mrs Jaffie did not cite this fact in order to demonstrate the "gnoseological roots," so to speak, of Washington propaganda but in order to move congressmen to pity and extort new appropriations for them.

Yes, vast amounts of money and equipment are provided for the "voices." But the timbre is essentially that of Goebbels. It is false. This falseness speaks not of us but of them and essentially paints a vivid picture not of our life but of theirs. Here is what John Gardner, founder of the Common Cause lobby organization, declares: "Duplicity and deceit in private and in public life are considerably more widespread than before." He is echoed by Christina Huff Sommers, a scientist from Clark University: "We are constantly bombarded with information which is, in fact, misinformation. According to a poll conducted by the magazine U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT and the CNN-TV Company, just 30 percent of Americans believe that the leaders of Congress speak the truth, and only 38 percent believe their President is truthful.

Those who deceive their own people also try to deceive the world public. They try to deceive by ringing a cracked bell, passing it off as the voice of America. An America -- yes, but which one? Not long ago ABC-TV commentator Jennings stated: "On 17 February 1947 the Russian emigre Victor Franzusoff turned a VOA microphone into a tool of the 'cold war.' Today, 40 years later, that same Victor Franzusoff is continuing to broadcast to the Soviet Union." So, the transmitter is Nazi, the reader an emigre, and the voice a "cold war" voice, and this for 40 years without respite. As in "Prince Igor": "Neither sleep nor rest for an exhausted soul." A curious paradox: The more modern the equipment, the more neanderthal the contents. Russian words pronounced "a la francaise" with an American accent sow seeds of enmity and dragon's teeth.

By "brainwashing" Washington is trying to pan out propaganda gold that is very far from being a noble metal. The ringing of the cracked bell has a harmful effect on the planet's health. (Through an irony of fate VOA's Washington office is under the same roof as the Department of Health). It is to the air as SDI is to space. They have a common radioactivity, so to speak.

USIA Director Charles Wick, incidentally a personal friend of Reagan and a show business magnate, declares that his department fulfills a "strategic role" and is "America's forward base in the war of ideas." Everything here is in its right place -- strategy, forward base, war. Ideas are the only thing to have been tagged on somewhat artificially. Unless, of course, you count them as pseudoideas. The point of the "war" which Charles Wick is waging differs little in terms of its aims from the activity of, say, Weinberger: to smash the socialist Carthage. This was openly stated recently from the platform of the annual conference of the Conservative Political Action Committees -- representatives of right-wing U.S. political forces. (Jack Uiller), leader of the "Freedom Research Foundation" -- freedom again! -- has bluntly declared that "our aim must be the destruction of the entire Soviet empire."

As we see, according to (Uiller), "freedom research" implies the destruction of the Soviet Union and the socialist community. (In this case it means "undermining from within"). There is no need to say that this "researcher's" dreams are unrealizable. But this certainly does not make them any less dangerous.

Problems of rights and freedoms have traditionally been the battlefield for anti-Soviet propaganda actions. The not yet entirely faded luster of bourgeois democracy and the certain -- let us state frankly -- very substantial difficulties which socialist democracy has experienced and is still experiencing have imparted to the "voices" a certain velvety tonality that has muffled the cracked sound. But the time is passing. As one sage said, the place where you are standing is not as important as the direction in which you are moving. We say today: More democracy! They entreat: Less democracy! Senator Moynihan admits in a fit of frankness that "American-style democracy is increasingly gravitating toward the monarchies of the last century. Our democracy is an example of where the world has been, not of where it is going. It bears no relation to the future. The majority of the world rejects our model of democracy."

One of Winston Churchill's favorite aphorisms stated that democracy is the worst form of government in the world, but unfortunately no one has yet thought of anything better. In point of fact, this is not an aphorism but a sophism, for what Churchill meant by democracy was exclusively bourgeois democracy. When we proclaim "more democracy!" what we mean is socialist democracy, that is, genuine rule by the people. When they entreat "Less democracy!" they muzzle even bourgeois democracy.

In Atlanta, Georgia, I once attended a meeting of the U.S. President's leading economic advisers with representatives of various sections of the population. Interrupting a stream of figures which one of the speakers was raining down on the audience, some women shouted:

"A starving person cannot take pleasure in democracy!"

The speaker was put off his stride and started winding up his speech.

The American astrophysicist Charles Hyder has been fasting in front of the White House for almost 6 months now. Perhaps his hunger strike refutes the words of the woman from Atlanta? For no one is driving Hyder out of Lafayette Square.

However, if you think about the logic of things, the Atlanta woman's starvation and Hyder's fast are two sides of the same coin. In the first case it is a question of the violation of vital human rights. Suppressors of democracy inside the country are warmongers outside it. "Our economy needs to have more millionaires and more unemployed," the [British] Conservatives' ideologue Keith Joseph declares. Thus the starving woman from Atlanta appears. "Our foreign policy needs more weapons and a greater threat of war," the Pentagon gentlemen might paraphrase Joseph. Thus Hyder's hunger strike arises.

The democracy of the cracked Liberty Bell gives an equal right to die of hunger both to the Atlanta women and to Hyder. But it deprives the former of a piece of bread and the latter of a peaceful future. As the American magazine ATLANTIC writes, "it would be flagrant nonsense to believe that the animal impulses and unsleeping ambitions of the 500 most powerful corporations coincide with the interests of society." In this instance it is impossible not to show "Atlantic" solidarity with the aforesaid. Of course, VOA keeps quiet about this, because it is the voice not of America but of precisely those very 500 most powerful U.S. corporations which write the country's laws but for which no law is written. VOA's consultative committee consists of representatives of the major concerns and is headed by H. Brown, who used to run a CBS radio program called "Mystery Theater." Symbolic, is it not? Instead of the republic's "founding fathers," they are "swindling fathers" who play out on the airwaves theatrical mysteries in which the chief hero -- the truth -- inevitably dies, as in Greek tragedies.

Let us view another excursion into the past, from my "British period." A symposium was being held in London, whose participants include Kingman Brewster, a pillar of the U.S. intellectual elite who was chancellor of the University of Wales at the time. He spoke of Washington's "global mission," which consists, he said, in ensuring that "both the wolves are sated and the sheep are whole." That is, the chancellor preached a policy of carrot and stick with regard to all mankind. When I took the floor, I confined myself to just one sentence, and that a borrowed one. I cited Abraham Lincoln's statement that "freedom for the wolf means death for the lamb." Mr Brewster magnanimously shook my hand, acknowledging either my resourcefulness or the correctness of his great compatriot's words.

The freedoms on which the "voices" pontificate are the freedoms of the wolf, and woe betide the lamb bewitched by sirens of the airwaves!

Every time I see how the word "freedom" is manipulated on the Potomac, I cannot help drawing a parallel with the way in which the word "verification" [kontrol] is manipulated there when it is a matter of talks on limiting and reducing nuclear and other arms. They gamble on our reacting negatively and saying "no." But as soon as we take constructive steps, it is the gentlemen from Washington who turn out to be the "Mr Nyets." This process has become more dynamic and obvious particularly of late, when restructuring, acceleration, democratization, and openness have become the watchword of our domestic life and new thinking has permeated our foreign policy. Now the Washington champions of rights and freedoms are trying to wreck the accords already reached at the Bern conference. The Washington champions of rights and freedoms are giving a hostile reception to the Soviet Union's proposal to convene in Moscow a representative conference of the all-European conference participant states on humanitarian questions. The highly perplexed -- or cracked? -- VOA even casts doubt on the very existence of the International Bill of Human Rights. Is this not on the grounds, gentlemen, that the United States has never yet found time to ratify two of its four constituent documents?

These are interesting and instructive metamorphoses. We too should draw conclusions from them. The more socialist democracy develops, the less scope, including room on the airwaves, its opponents have left. The more confidently openness enters our life, the less confident the "voices" become. Only quite recently President Reagan, displaying dubious wit and undoubted ingnorance, claimed that the Russian language does not have a word for freedom, but today he even pronounces the word "openness" in Russian. He is not at all happy about this. But there is nothing to be done...

TASS NOTES U.S. ROCKET LAUNCH ACCIDENT

LD270908 Moscow TASS in English 0733 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] New York March 27 TASS -- The TV company CNN has reported that about one minute after take-off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, an Atlas-Centaur carrier rocket got out of hand and was destroyed on command from the ground control centre. According to press reports, the rocket was to put into orbit a communications satellite for the U.S. Navy at a cost of 83 million dollars. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration is investigating the causes of the accident.

ARTICLE EXAMINES ROLE OF U.S. JAPANESE BASES

PM241519 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 24 Mar 87 First Edition p 3

(A. Anichkin dispatch: "Under an Electronic Cap. Where the Radars of American Bases Located on Japanese Shores Are Directed")

[Text] Tokyo -- On a warm spring day a river of demonstrators flowed around a huge field enclosed by barbed wire. By the gates bearing the cordial inscription "Welcome to Yokota!" the Japanese police did their customary work, pushing aside people with banners reading "Yankees Go Home!" A big-bellied U.S. Air Force transport aircraft flew right overhead with a strained roar.

"The aircraft are not the most terrible thing at Yokota," an acquaintance from the Tokyo Peace Committee touched my sleeve. "Look there, at that antenna tower. It's called 'Giant Talk.' It is a strategic communications center, through which the special order to launch a nuclear attack would be passed. An order meaning the end of the world..."

In different corners of Japan I frequently recall that conversation by the gates at Yokota -- the chief U.S. Air Force base in Japan. The open-worked interlacing of huge antennas resembling cages for strange animals and silvery spheres concealing radars appear importunately before your eyes over the whole chain of the Japanese Islands.

It turns out that the interlaced American antennas are in action even now, awaiting the fateful hour.

The "Task Force 168" U.S. Navy special reconnaissnce subunit is based at the Yokosuka and Kamisei bases in Kanagawa Prefecture. No one here showed any special interest in its activity until it came to ligh that secret group's "specialists" tail politicians and public figures in Japan and prepare secret or deliberate, open provocations.

For example, it was at Kamisei that the crew of the spy ship "Pueblo," caught red-handed in DPRK territorial waters, was trained. Approximately 300 specialists are on 24-hour duty in gray, windowless buildings, and computers hum, processing espionage information on the USSR, Japan, the DPRK, and China. Streams of coded reports converge there from satellites and P-3C aircraft. Kamisei's potential will be expanded still further by a special over-the-horizon radar which will soon appear on the island of Iwo Jima.

The reinforcing of the base at Kamisei is just part of a huge project to create a U.S. "electronic cap" over the entire northwest Pacific. The central role in this project is allocated to Japan. A network of tracking and electronic reconnaissance stations will extend along a whole line from the Philippines to the Arctic.

This project is directly linked with the realization of the U.S. armed forces' so-called "new strategy" in the Pacific: They intend to turn the region into a second line of military confrontation to add to the European one. According to the newspaper ASAHI, Tokyo's participation in the radar project means further Japanese involvement in U.S. strategic preparations in the Asia and Pacific region.

...Lacy antennas and short, thick ventilation pipes for underground bunkers also cover a green hill not from from the city of Wakkanai, on the shore of La Perouse Strait, between Sakhalin and Hokkaido. This base on Cape Noshappu -- one of the closest points to USSR territory in Japan -- is surrounded by barbed wire bearing inscriptions in English and Japanese: "No Entry. Violators Punished by Law." [paragraph continues]

Since January of this year the National Security Agency -- the most hush-hush U.S. intelligence department -- has completely closed the electronic espionage base on Hokkaido to Japanese. It is no secret aht the information intercepted by the antennas on Cape Noshappu has ceased to be passed to Japanese intelligence, with which "big brother" from across the ocean used to share. This has not happened by chance. Ubiquitous Japanese journalists managed to find out that the Americans use the base, as well as other similar installations, to interfere in Japan's affairs, and, in particular, to intercept coded messages from its embassies in foreign countries. But even that is not the main point. The journalists' investigations showed that a special subunit comprising 30 CIA and National Security Agency staffers was transferred to Wakkanai in total secrecy in 1982 from the American air base at Misawa. Not only in Japan but even in the United States only a very limited circle of people at the Pentagon, at Langley, and in the White House knew of the start of the new espionage operation. The nature of the task entrusted to those involved in project "Key" is not known precisely even now. Many journalists, who are still investigating the provocation involving the South Korean Boeing flight over Soviet territory on the night of 31 August-1 September 1983, believe that the Noshappu base played a far from secondary role in that action.

American bases are going underground. At Misawa -- the air base in the north of Honshu Island, where nuclear weapon-carrying F-16 fighter-bombers are stationed -- activists of antiwar organizations succeeded in photographing the entrance to underground command centers designed for troop control in the event of a nuclear conflict. The U.S. Air Force regional command is to be housed in Bunker 961 -- one of these shelters. The Pentagon has constructed similar secret command centers in case of a war involving the use of mass destruction means both at Yokota and at Yokosuka, ports which have become two of the chief Far East operations centers for American ships carrying nuclear cruise missiles. No wonder: The Pentagon's strategic apportionments essentially allocate Japan the role of a barricade to protect the United States against a counterstrike in the event of a conflict.

GOVERNMENT CABLES CONDOLENCES TO MONGOLIA

LD252034 Moscow TASS in English 1937 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- The Council of Ministers of the USSR sent a telegram to Dumaagiyn Sodnom, head of the Mongolian government, in conjunction with the tragic events caused by snow storms in a number of areas of the Mongolian People's Republic, which entailed human loss.

The Soviet Government expressed sincere condolences to the bereaved families and relatives.

COMMENTARY EXAMINES LAO-THAI TALKS IN BANGKOK

BK260436 Moscow in Lao to Laos 1300 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] After reading news from various Southeast Asian countries, the Lao-Thai talks in Bangkok may come to one's mind. This news is of considerable interest to this region. Originally, the talks for improving the bilateral relations were a result of the visit to Vientiane paid by a high-level Thai delegation in November 1986.

The Lao Foreign Ministry revealed that in the new round of talks the Lao side will be prepared to consider various issues of mutual interest, which will lead to the settlement of regional disputes. As a matter of fact, there are many problems accumulated between the two countries. Recently, the neighborly relations of friendship which have been traditionally maintained between the two countries were harmed. This situation was not caused by the Lao side. Facts show that hostile activities against the Lao people along the border were mainly caused by foreign intervention. The Thai press has admitted that damage has been done to Thai business circles. According to last year's figures, bilateral trade between the two countries was reduced to only 12 million baht, while Laos' trade activities with foreign countries totaled 4,500 million baht. After presenting the figures THE NATION raised the question: Why was it necessary to suspend trade with Laos for the sake of political purposes?

Prior to the Lao delegation's arrival in Bangkok, THE NATION also called on the government to eliminate various limitations that obstruct cooperation between Laos and Thailand. It is natural that the question of friendly relations between the two countries does not concern only trade or economic relations. It has been admitted that some influential groups, including those in Thailand, are trying to obstruct effective talks between the ASEAN and Indochinese countries and between Laos and Thailand in particular. All this was revealed in a press interview at the LPDR Foreign Ministry in Vientiane. For example, a Lao national named Manivong was sent from Thailand last month to carry out terrorist activities in Lao soil. This incident was not the first.

After the talks have begun it is expected that Lao-Thai relations will be improved. The Lao delegation is in Bangkok to negotiate with the Thai side to ensure mutual trust and mutual understanding, using as the basis the documents already arranged by the two sides, such as the joint Lao-Thai communiques signed in January and April 1979 defining five principles for conducting friendly relations, including the princiles of not to use force and not to threaten to use force, to avoid using one country's territory as a stronghold for attacking and invading the other, and to settle problems through peaceful means.

In brief, there are opportunities and concrete ways to develop the Lao-Thai talks and discussion in the interest of the improvement of political atmosphere in Southeast Asia in accordance with the principles of concord.

BIRYUKOVA COMPLETES VISIT TO VIETNAM 23 MAR

PM241501 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Visit Ends"]

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City, 23 Mar -- A CPSU delegation headed by A.P. Biryukova, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was in Vietnam from 17 through 23 March at the invitation of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) Central Committee to familiarize itself with party work experience. In Hanoi the delegation was received by Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee. There were meetings and conversations with Do Muoi, member of the CPV Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers; and Nguyen Thanh Binh, member of the CPV Central Committee Politburo and secretary of Hanoi party City Committee.

The CPSU delegation had meetings with the leaders of the SRV State Planning Committee and the republic's ministries of light industry and foreign trade and visited a number of enterprises in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, and Dong Nai Province producing consumer goods and items for export, in particular to the USSR.

During the meetings and conversations there was an examination of questions of deepening comprehensive ties, arising out of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and 6th CPV Congress, and improving the effectiveness of Soviet-Vietnamese economic and scientific-technical cooperation by switching it to new progressive forms. There was mention of the great potential for expanding cooperation between the two countries in the sphere of light industry and consumer goods production.

Today the CPSU delegation left Ho Chi Minh City for home.

It was seen off at the airport by representatives of local party and state bodies. USSR Ambassador to the SRV D.I. Kachin was also there to see it off.

Welcomed Home by Medvedev

LD232308 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 23 Mar 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A CPSU delegation headed by Comrade Biryukova today returned to Moscow from Ho Chi Minh City. At the airport, she was met by Comrade Medvedev and senior staff of the CPSU Central Committee. In the welcoming party was Nguyen Van Quang, SRV charge d'affaires in the USSR.

SOLOMENTSEV-LED DELEGATION VISITS BULGARIA

Airport Send-off

LD230925 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] At the invitation of the BCP, a delegation of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, headed by Comrade Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, left Moscow for Sofia. In the delegation were Comrade Golovan, chairman of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Party Control Committee, and Comrade Palyayev, chairman of the Ulyanovsk Obkom Party Control Committee. At the airport the delegation was seen off by Comrade Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR KGB, Comrade Voropayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee; Comrade Fedorov, deputy head of a Central Committee department; and other CPSU executives. Among those at the airport was Georgi Tsankov Pankov, Bulgarian ambassador in the USSR.

Sofia Airport Reception

LD231311 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] A delegation of the Party Control Committee attached to the CPSU Central Committee, led by Comrade Solomentsev, arrived in Sofia today at the invitation of the BCP Central Committee. At the airport the delegation was greeted by Chudomir Aleksandrov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo, Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the BCP Central Committee, Nacho Papazov, chairman of the BCP Central Control and Auditing Commission, and other officials. Among the meeting party was Leonid Grekov, USSR ambassador to Bulgaria.

Addresses Party Aktiv 24 Mar

PM251933 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation Visits Bulgaria"]

[Text] Sofia, 24 Mar -- A CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee delegation headed by M.S. Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, had a meeting today with the Bulgarian capital's party aktiv.

The meeting was addressed by M.S. Solomentsev. He noted that exchanging experience and learning from one another is a good tradition. Soviet people are glad that socialist Bulgaria is successfully implementing the decisions of the 13th BCP Congress and reaching new frontiers in its socioeconomic and spiritual development. The material basis for all-around, mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and Bulgaria is expanding, the effectiveness of this cooperation is growing, and accords are being given real substance.

A considerable amount of work has been done by our party and state organs, enterprises, and scientific organizations to develop the most progressive forms of socialist integration. More than 80 Soviet collectives are working to develop direct links with various enterprises and organizations in Bulgaria. The study of organizational questions connected with setting up more than 50 Soviet-Bulgarian enterprises, associations, and organizations is nearing completion. [paragraph continues]

The initiative of Kuybyshev, Leningrad, and Odessa party Obkoms, on the one hand, and Stara Zagora, Plovdiv, and Varna BCP Okrug Committees, on the other, which have begun exploring and practically implementing programs for regional scientific and technical cooperation, deserves support.

As is well known, the Soviet Union's foreign economic activity is being restructured and its international cooperation intensified, particularly with fraternal countries. Soviet-Bulgarian cooperation is inseparable from our two countries' active participation in implementing the Integrated Program for Scientific and Technical Progress in CEMA Countries Through 2000.

Describing the present international situation, M.S. Solomentsev stressed that more and more people throughout the world are becoming convinced that the new political thinking is the CPSU's response to the challenge of the time. Tireless search for solutions opening the way to mutually acceptable accords and equal security is our principled course. It was from this standpoint that the Soviet Union proceeded when it proposed to separate the problem of medium-range missiles in Europe from the general complex of issues and conclude an independent agreement on it, and to do this without delay.

The speaker went on to note that Soviet people are now experiencing an intense, innovative period in their lives. Less than 2 years ago, at the Central Committee April (1985) Plenum, followed by the 27th CPSU Congress, our party developed the concept of speeding up the country's socioeconomic development and restructuring and renewing society. It took carefully thought out decisions in line with the crucial nature of the present stage and inspired all the people to fulfill these decisions.

The CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum holds a special place in the realization of the strategic course aimed at restructuring. It was a political event of historic importance. The plenum laid the foundations for advancing further along the path of acceleration and restructuring. Soviet people rightly associate this course with their vital plans, their future, and the fate of socialism, social program, and peace on earth.

The head of the delegation went on to talk about the great amount of organizational and political work to be done by the party to implement the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum and about the creative enthusiasm of the masses which now characterizes the life of Soviet society.

A new moral and political atmosphere is taking shape in the country. Openness, truth, an uncompromising attitude toward shortcomings, and a desire to improve matters are becoming established as active principles. Organization, exactingness, and discipline are increasing. There is now greater order.

Appreciable changes are taking place in the economy. The thorough restructuring of the national economy has begun on the basis of scientific and technical progress and changes are being made to structural investment policy. Particular attention is being devoted to improving the quality and competitiveness of products, substantially speeding up scientific and technical progress, and rapidly introducing its achievements in practice.

Since the beginning of 1987 industrial enterprises and associations have been transferred to experimentally tested forms of economic management. A number of sectors, enterprises, and associations have begun to work on the basis of full financial autonomy and self-financing. The transfer of 1,500 leading enterprises to the state acceptance system has contributed to intensifying the struggle for production quality. Permanent organs under the USSR Council of Ministers have been set up to oversee groups of interconnected sectors.

A broad range of measures are being implemented in the social sphere.

Attention is being focused on housing and food supply problems, the task of more fully satisfying popular demand for a wide variety of good quality commodities and services, and the problem of developing public health care and other sectors in the social sphere. New conditions pertaining to wage raises have been introduced, the formation of cooperatives in various spheres of production and services is being encouraged, unsubstantiated restrictions on individual labor activity have been removed, and sources of unearned income are being eradicated.

The head of the delegation dwelt especially on the questions relating to the struggle which has developed on a broad scale throughout the country to eradicate drunkenness and alcoholism and establish a sober lifestyle.

The restructuring process is being developed in every area of our lives. It is not only taking effect across the board, it is penetrating deep into every stratum of life. This is creating a new attitude to work among the working people and yielding real, practical results. This is convincingly shown by the results of the 1st year of the 12th 5-year period. Discussing these results, M.S. Solomentsev noted that the results for January and February this year have proved not so successful. This, of course, is largely the result of difficulties caused by the harsh winter. But this is not the only reason. Any breakdowns in plan fulfillment primarily show that the restructuring process has not yet attained a rhythm which is difficult to break. Consequently, the party proceeds from the premise that restructuring has only begun. The main tasks still lie ahead. A vast amount of effort and long, selfless struggle will be required for its continuation.

The party connects the realization of the course of the 27th CPSU Congress and Central Committee January Plenum with fuller disclosure of the potential inherent in socialism as a new social system, and primarily with the all-round development of socialist democracy and real control by the people's masses. The question today is: We either have democracy or we have social inertia and conservatism. We need democracy in order to alter a great deal that is not in line with the demands of the time and to provide scope for people's creativity, new ideas, and initiative.

The Central Committee January Plenum analyzed every link in the political system of our society and every component of management and the economic mechanism. Specific ways to further deepen socialist democracy were outlined. The main ways to do this are to develop production democracy and consistently introduce self-management in labor collectives. These forms of direct democracy are embodied in the Law on the State Enterprise (Association), the draft of which is now being broadly discussed throughout the country. The adoption of this law will undoubtedly be a major political measure with the transition, to quote V.I. Lenin, to "real people's self-management."

The working people must have a real opportunity to influence the choice of leaders and monitor their activity. The appointment by election of leaders of enterprises, shops, departments, sectors, farms, and units and also team leaders and foremen is being introduced. Available experience of leaders being elected shows that this practice is well received by people and has a positive effect on work results.

M.S. Solomentsev talked in detail about measures to improve the Soviet electoral system, which have the aim of enhancing its effectiveness and increasing real participation by the voters at every stage of the pre-election and election campaign. [paragraph continues]

He noted that there are plans to submit draft legislation on the introduction of amendments to the electoral system for nationwide discussion.

Within the general context of further democratizing Soviet society, the CPSU Central Committee plenum supported the Politburo's principled course aimed at increasing internal party democracy. The essence of this is to enhance all Communists' activeness in the election of secretaries to party bureaus and committees. One current opinion is that there should be greater democracy in the formation of the party's central leading organs. The Central Committee plans to discuss all these measures at the All-Union Party Conference. They will, beyond all doubt, help to strengthen the unity and cohesion of party ranks and increase the discipline and responsibility of Communists, all party organizations, and the party as a whole.

There are plans to develop and implement measures which will guarantee a deciding role for elected organs and their effective control over the executive apparatus and its formation and activity. This will serve as a reliable barrier in the way of bureaucracy and a good means of democratizing state and public life.

The practice of officials systematically reporting back to labor collectives and the population has great significance. This is one specific form of real control by the masses. But we do not need formal reports, "on the nod," as they say. It is essential to ensure that every such report is accompanied by lively, principled discussion, criticism and self-criticism, and businesslike proposals, and concludes with an assessment of the activity of the working person in question. In this respect working people are within their rights to raise the issue of releasing officials from their duties if they prove unequal to the demands made of them or compromise their position in any way. With this kind of approach the bureaucrat and the formalist will find it difficult to remain where they are.

A great deal is now being done in our country to increase openness and develop criticism and self-criticism, particularly criticism "from below." Under the present conditions, when new approaches are being established in sociopolitical life and the spiritual sphere, the significance of criticism and self-criticism has increased immeasurably. The attitude taken to criticism is an indicator of cadres' political maturity, their willingness for change, and their ability to restructure in practice.

A very important task today is to seriously update cadre policy and make it really contemporary and indissolubly connected with key areas of the struggle for socioeconomic acceleration. The CPSU persistently aims to ensure that every sector of social activity is led by cadres who are capable of overcoming inertia and routine, leading people, and creatively and consistently implementing the party line.

In the context of restructuring and acceleration, the role played by the party as the leading and guiding force of Soviet society is objectively enhanced. The party is making greater demands on all its units and restructuring its work style and methods. This fully applies to the organization of verification of fulfillment and the practice of party control. The speaker noted that the problems of party control are formulated in the Leninist style -- in depth and breadth -- in the documents of the 27th CPSU Congress and the Central Committee January Plenum. The party regards control as the task of all its organizations and party committees, and the intensification of control as an essential condition of progress.

The Central Committee January (1987) Plenum demanded that practical measures be taken to radically improve the activity of party, state, and public control organs by increasing their influence on strengthening discipline, eradicating every manner of violations and abuses, and increasing efficiency in the work of the apparatus.

Party control organs are restructuring their work. Control work is becoming more intense and increasing in volume, new forms of control, primarily planned forms, are being developed, and the activity of control organs is becoming more coordinated.

M.S. Solomentsev talkd about the recent conference in the CPSU Central Committee involving the chairman of party control commissions under the Central Committees of the union republic communist parties and party kraykoms and obkoms, at which the participants exchanged experience of working under the conditions of the restructuring process, discussed the tasks stemming from the 27th CPSU Congress and CPSU Central Committee January Plenum directives, and outlined ways to ensure more effective participation by party control organs in resolving topical problems relating to the development of Soviet society.

M.S. Solomentsev said in conclusion:

The CPSU Central Committee January Plenum is regarded abroad as a very major event in the life of Soviet society which has great international significance. Our enemies recognize the seriousness of the renewal processes although they do not conceal their desire to perceive some kind of "liberalization" of our society and the erosion of the USSR's socialist foundations. It goes without saying that this will never happen. We are not departing from socialism but developing the potential of the socialist system by restructuring. We aspire to even greater socialism.

Fraternal parties and countries regard the Central Committee January Plenum documents primarily as the embodiment of our creative approach to resolving the complex problems of socialist building. We are pleased to note the ardent response to the plenum decisions shown by Bulgarian Communists and all the working people of fraternal Bulgaria. The attitude of our friends is inspiring. It compels us to boldly follow our planned course and strive to realize all our undertakings. Soviet Communists and all Soviet people regard this as their international duty.

This year sees the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution. The ideas of the October Revolution call for sustained work for the sake of our country's prosperity and in the name of socialism and peace. Soviet people will do everything to greet this great celebration with success in their work and in the implementation of restructuring and acceleration.

M.S. Solomentsev answered questions at the end of the meeting.

The meeting was attended by S. Todorov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Bulgarian National Assembly; D. Stanishev, secretary of the BCP Central Committee; and N. Papazov, chairman of the BCP Central Control and Auditing Commission.

Delegation Visits Plovdiv

LD252117 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] A delegation of the Party Control Committee under the CPSU Central Committee, headed by Comrade Solementsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the Party Control Committee under the CPSU Central Committee, which is staying in Bulgaria at the invitation of the BCP Central Committee, today visited Plovdiv, the second biggest city in the republic, and a big industrial center.

During his friendly conversation with the city's working people, Mikhail Sergeyevich Solomentsev talked of the progress in fulfilling the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and of the CPSU Central Committee January 1987 Plenum in accelerating the economic and social development of Soviet society.

Talks With Pazardzhik Residents

LD262155 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] A delegation of the Party Control Committee [PCC] attached to the CPSU Central Committee, led by Mikhail Sergeyevich Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the PCC attached to the CPSU Central Committee, today arrived in the town of Pazardzhik, the center of one of Bulgaria's industrial-agrarian districts. In front of the district committee building of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Soviet guests were warmly welcomed by the town's inhabitants. Comrade Solomentsev told them about the problems presently being tackled by the Soviet people.

At a meeting with the leadership of the district committee and the district control and auditing commission of the BCP, the Soviet guests were acquainted with the district's rich revolutionary traditions and with the progress made by the working people in fulfilling the decisions of the 13th BPC Congress. The guests visited the district house of Bulgarian-Soviet Friendship. The head of the Soviet delegation made an entry in the book of honored visitors.

In the afternoon, the Soviet guests visited the Metallik metal-cutting machine tool works. Comrade Solomentsev spoke at a Bulgarian-Soviet friendship rally which took place. On behalf of the delegation, he made a gift of am embroidered portrait of Lenin to the works collective in the year of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

SOVIET ARMED FORCES IN GDR HOLD JOINT EXERCISE

LD261819 Moscow TASS in English 1751 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Berlin March 26 TASS -- The sides involved in a joint exercise staged by the group of Soviet troops in Germany and the National People's Army of the German Democratic Republic today turned to active operations.

"Blue" units, after aircraft and artillery strikes at "Orange" troops; launched an offensive and broke through advanced defence lines.

The brunt of the attack was borne by a motorized rifle regiment under Lieutenant-Colonel V. Andrievskiy. The officer commanded his subordinates and units with utmost precision.

The second "Orange" echelon was preparing for a counter-attack. It comprised a motorized rifle regiment of the GDR's National People's Army under Lieutanant-Colonel M. Messerle. The regiment had to engage "Blue" paratroopers dropped from helicopters into the rear of the defending force. The paratroopers were routed after a fierce battle.

Aircraft provided great assistance to the land troops.

The main developments are being watched by observers invited by the GDR Government in keeping with a document of the Stockholm conference. Twenty countries participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe sent their representatives.

The exercise is continuing.

PPR MALINOWSKI-LED SEJM DELEGATION IN AZERBAIJAN

LD251014 Warsaw PAP in English 0034 GMT 25 Mar 87

[By PAP correspondent Slawomir Popowski]

[Text] Moscow, March 24 -- A delegation of Polish parliamentarians led by Sejm (Parliament) Speaker Roman Malinowski, on a visit to the USSR at the invitation of the country's Supreme Soviet, today visited the capital of the Azerbaijan Republic -- Baku, and called on the Supreme Soviet of the republic.

They were briefed on Azerbaijan's accomplishments and prospects as well as development problems and on implementation in the republic of the resolutions of the 27th Congress of the CPSU.

The host were particularly respectful of Poland's constructive role in the international arena and stressed the importance of international initiatives proposed by Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski.

They also expressed hope for direct contacts and cooperation between Polish and Azerbaijani companies.

GERASIMOV IN 'NEW TIMES' ON THATCHER VISIT

LD261406 Moscow TASS in English 1117 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 26 TASS -- Moscow is preparing to welcome the distinguished British guest with due respect and traditional hospitality, says the commentary by Gennadiy Gerasimov in the NEW TIMES on the article by Sir Geoffrey Howe, British foreign secretary, published in the same 13th issue of the Soviet weekly of foreign policy analysis NEW TIMES.

The upcoming visit of the British prime minister to the Soviet Union will be the first such visit over the past 12 years, the commentary says. We regard it to be a good opportunity to elevate our relations, the political dialogue and cooperation on international issues to a new level. We pin hopes on Margaret Thacher's visit for serious progress precisely in that direction of cooperation, agreement on whose basic outlines was reached in the course of Mikhail Gorbachev's meetings and conversations with the British premier in December 1984.

The broadening of the dialogue for mutual understanding, about which Sir Geoffrey Howe writes, is also our aim. We cannot but welcome the manifestation of intellectual curiosity mentioned by Sir Geoffrey Howe and the wish to get a better insight into the interesting change under way in the Soviet Union. The more so that this curiosity may have practical consequences in the form of broadening cooperation, contacts and knowledge about each other.

We in Moscow proceed from the recognition of the importance of the dialogue between the leaders of our two countries, which organically centers on the whole package of the most burning problems of the present. The task to prevent the spreading of the arms race into outer space and considerably lower the level of strategtic nuclear confrontation, of leading things to freeing Europe from Nuclear weapons necessitates closest attention and vigorous measures to be taken now. Thus the upcoming visit goes beyond the framework of purely bilateral relations.

Unfortunately, the article by Sir Geoffrey Howe does not contain an expression of his attitude to the subject of arms race in outer space.

It will be, indisputably, interesting to familiarize ourselves with Margaret Thatcher's arguments against the idea of a nuclear-free world. This idea is known to be supported separately both by the U.S. President and the Soviet leader, so to say independently from each other. At the same time it was supported by them jointly at the summit meeting in Reykjavik. Unfortunately, the article by Sir Geoffrey Howe does not touch upon the most important subject of nuclear-free world as well as that of nuclear-free Europe, Gennadiy Gerasimov points out. It is apt to recall that the editorial board of the NEW TIMES once addressed to Sir Geoffrey Howe precisely the proposal that he share his ideas of the possibility of a nuclear-free world, as was done my many participants in the international poll held by the magazine.

TRADE OFFICIAL ON IMPROVING UK BUSINESS TIES

LD260219 Moscow TASS in English 1932 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- "Great Britain ranks seventh among the industrialized countries in trade with the Soviet Union. Trade turnover between the two countries is below their economic capabilities," said Yevgeniy Pitovranov, chairman of the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

He addressed the just-ended 71st meeting of the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce in Moscow.

"A more active participation of British comapanies in international exhibitions in the Soviet Union, for one, could promote the development of trade," Yevgeniy Pitovranov went on to say. "Evidently the travel itineraries of British trade delegations in the Soviet Union should be re-considered too. They usually go straight to larger cities of the U.S.S.R. and visit no more than one constituent republic every year. Although the British side says that it approaches with understanding the Soviet Union's desire to increase the amount of finished products in its export to Great Britain, the share of exporters of British products in the delegations sent to the U.S.S.R. stands at 80 to 90 per cent."

"The U.S.S.R. Chamber of Commerce and Industry for its part is ready to assist the British side in establishing contacts with the Soviet ministries, associations and enterprises which have received the right of direct access to foreign markets. For that purpose it is planned to step up a consultancy service at the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry which will rely in its work on the assistance of prominent Soviet lawyers, marketing and patenting experts," Yevgeniy Pitovranov emphasized.

In the opinion of the participants in the meeting, the inauguration of a representative office of the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce in Moscow during the forthcoming visit of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to the Soviet Union will be a milestone in the development of bilateral trade.

More than 100 members of the British business community, top officials of the Foreign Economic Commission of the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers, the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the U.S.S.R. Chamber of Commerce and Industry and other Soviet ministries and departments attended the meeting of the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce.

ARISTOV COMMENTS ON TRADE RELATIIONS WITH UK

LD260216 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- The Soviet Union views its relations with Great Britain, also in the commercial and economic area, as an important factor of stability and security in Europe, said USSR Minister of Foreign Trade Boris Aristov. He addressed a regular meeting of the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce which opened here today.

In the programme of its economic development the USSR mainly relies on its own resources, paying at the same time much attention to economic cooperation with foreign states, Boris Aristov said.

Great Britain is one of the Soviet Union's main partners among industrialized capitalist countries. The bilateral trade turnover made up 15 billion roubles in the past ten years, trebling on the previous decade. But the level of trade achieved is below the economic potential of both countries, said the USSR minister of foreign trade.

The further development of bilateral trade is hampered by various restrictions. For instance, quotas have been established which sharply limit the export of 170 items from the USSR to Great Britain. List of goods that are quite unjustifiably prohibited to be exported by Britain to the USSR are also a serious brake.

Back in 1984, when Great Britain was visited by a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet headed by Mikhail Gorbachev, it was noted that trade between the USSR and Great Britain can increase substantially, but this will require the efforts of both sides.

Talks are now under way about the particpation of British firms in the implementation of projects of cooperation with the Soviet Union to a sum of over one billion roubles in such areas as chemistry and petrochemistry, motor-car industry and other areas.

The current meeting of the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce is held shortly before the opening of an official visit of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to the USSR. We hope that this visit will give a fresh impetus to Soviet-British relations in every area, including commercial and economic, Boris Aristov said.

TASS NOTES EEC'S INSUPERABLE DIFFICULTIES'

LD251140 Moscow TASS in English 0957 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Brussels March 25 TASS -- It is 30 years today since the signing of the Rome Treaty to establish the European Communities.

The founders of the Common Market hoped for an imposing edifice of the United States of Western Europe to be built over a short time in place of the West European countres which had been rivaling one another all the time.

But there is still no end in sight for the construction job which has dragged on for years.

The EEC has run into insuperable difficulties engendered both by antagonistic interests and by cyclic crises in the capitalist economy and serious social and economic troubles.

Contrary to forecasts, contradictions among the partners have only grown still sharper lately.

The entire history of the EEC has been a history of unrelenting struggle by its members for more favorable conditions to produce and sell their products, a history of a mounting campaign by Western Europe's working people against the arbitrary practices of monopolies and unemployment and for democracy, cooperation and social progress.

CPSU DELEGATION VISITS IRELAND 16-25 MAR

PM251339 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Visit Ends"]

[Text] Dublin, 24 Mar -- A CPSU Delegation headed by V.S. Astrauskas, secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, was here 16 through 23 March at the invitation of the Communist Party of Ireland [CPI]. The aim of the visit was to expand and deepen the fraternal ties between the CPSU and the CPI.

During meetings and talks, the CPSU delegation reported in detail on the progress of the implementation of the broad program of the restructuring of the Soviet national economy and the strengthening and broadening of socialist democracy in various spheres of the Soviet society's life. The Irish Communists briefed the guests on the activities of the party, in particular its work in the trade unions and in helping the unemployed, who now constitute one-fifth of the country's able-bodied population. The CPSU delegation visited a number of PCI primary organizations and centers for the unemployed.

FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY HOLDS ROME NEWS CONFERENCE

LD260213 Moscow TASS in English 2005 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Rome March 25 -- TASS correspondents Aleksey Golyayev and Nikolay Teterin report:

The struggle to remove the nuclear menance, to preserve human civilization, the unifying role of culture in the modern world and other important issues were put to debate of a meeting of Soviet and Italian scientists and cultural personalities opening here. Its watchword is "The world, what will it be like in the 21st century."

On the Soviet delegation, which is headed by Tikhon Khrennikov, chairman of the "USSR-Italy" society, are such prominent representatives of the Soviet art as Mikhail Ulyanov, Maya Plisetskaya, Mikhail Shatrov and others.

Alessandro Faedo, member of the Presential Council of the "Italy-USSR" society, drew attention to the importance of the Soviet-Italian meeting. "We are glad to welcome the Soviet guests in our country", he said. "We are sure that the upcoming disputes and lectures will allow us to get a better idea of the changes now taking place in the Soviet Union, of progress in the reorganization effort. The fact that this word is mentioned in Italian newspapers without translation is an indication of interest in it."

"This is already the second such Italian-Soviet meeting," Khrennikov, head of the Soviet delegation, told TASS. "The first one was held in Moscow three years ago. We see our task in discussing with our Italian colleagues the problems before the whole of mankind. The pivotal among them is the struggle to guarantee peace, to remove the threat of destruction to the globe."

"We would like to hope that the members of our delegation -- artistes, journalists, economists, representatives of the scientific community and of the Orthodox Church will be able to convey to the Italian audiences the noble ideas of peace, detente and humanism."

Vincenzo Corghi, general secretary of the "Italy-USSR" society, joins the talk. "I would like specially to emphasize the continuity between our meeting and the international forum held in Moscow recently. Both here and and at the forum the point at issue is one and the same ideals and objectives -- to guarantee peace and security to future generations."

"It is necessary that an end should be put to military preparations and nuclear missiles be eliminated. We regard our meeting as a contribution within our capabilities to this noble struggle by the whole of progressive mankind."

'DIE WELT' CRITICIZES SISTER-CITY RELATIONS

LD260224 Moscow TASS in English 2015 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Boris Shabayev writes:

It has become customary for certain persons in the West to try to drown the most important problems of the survival of humanity in the quagmire of most absurd rumours, dirty insinuations. Each time a new bold Soviet initiative offers a way out of the endless tunnel of the arms race, fear and mutual distrust, each time an opportunity is opened for settling the problems affecting the destinies of entire civilization, they stage a provocation aimed at poisoning the atmosphere and thwarting the possibility of a positive solution.

Going by everything, the Springer "DIE WELT" was following this custom when it staged another anti-Soviet attack in connection with the fact that Tallinn and Kiel established the relations of united towns. It came out with its usual hackneyed allegations about espionage. You see, Kiel is a naval base with destroyers, submarines, military boats and minesweepers, and this is precisely what attracts these crafty Russians....

There would be no need to expose all these absurdities. It is obvious that hundreds of foreign vessels pass through the harbours of Kiel and Tallinn every day and thousands of sailors go ashore. And should anyone want to go spying, there would be no need to bother to establish sister-city relations.

But the Springer "detectives" are not strong on common sense. When one is given a political order by one's masters, one should rush out to fulfil it as best he can. And so hardly a day passes without "DIE WELT" writing about the "closed" Soviet society, lamenting the "impenetrable curtain," which allegedly separates the Soviet citizens from the rest of the world. "DIE WELT" clamours about "free human contact," eagerly calls for the observance of "human rights," tirelessly rakes up the contents of the so-called "Third Basket" in order to accuse the Soviet Union of violating humanitarian principles of the Helsinki Final Act.

And jointly with other bodies of the same stripe, it attacks human contacts, be it relations of united towns or societies of friendship and cultural relations, guest performances of Soviet actors or scientific exchange, visits of trade union delegations or carriage of cargoes. "All this is a front for spying," "DIE WELT" declares trying to intimidate the gullible. "And the united town federation is nothing but a crowd of Red saboteurs."

And who is it that is really trying to "close" one's society, who places a curtain between peoples, a curtain of lies, slander, distrust? Who is it that encroaches on human rights, in this case the right of West Germans to get first hand information about the Soviet Union, and not information distorted by the Springer political prism?

Nothing but the fear of truth about the processes taking place in the Soviet Union, about the essence of its far-reaching foreign policy initiatives can explain this stance.

DANISH ECONOMIC WORKING GROUP MEETS 10-13 MAR

PM171613 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 15 Mar 87 p 3

[TASS report: "Working Group Session"]

[Text] Copenhagen, 14 Mar -- The 12th session of the permanent working group on economic and industrial cooperation between the USSR and Denmark was held here 10-13 March.

It discussed progress in elaborating and the prospects for implementing bilateral cooperation projects in various sectors of industry. There was an exchange of opinions on the potential for making wider use of new forms of cooperation based on mutually advantageous scientific, technical, and production collaboration and the creation of joint enterprises.

RSFSR, FRANCE SIGN MOTOR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT

LD202341 Moscow TASS in English 2142 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 20 TASS -- Accords which open up fresh prospects for the development of Soviet-French cooperation in the field of moter transport had been reached during talks which came to a close here today.

The talks wer attended by representatives of the Ministry of the Motor Transport of the Russian Federation and the French Ministry of Supplies, Housing Construction, Territorial Development and Transport.

The sides reaffirmed a mutual interest in giving a greater scope to transportation by road between the two countries, and specified a quota for permissions for reciprocal transportation in 1987.

It was also agreed that the transportation of goods along the Moscow-Paris-Moscow route would not be limited to the quota.

Besides, provision was made for a possibility of additional two-way and transit transportation with a joint participation of the motor transport of the two countries.

BRIEFS

DRUG RESEARCH IN ITALY -- Moscow March 4 TASS -- Soviet and Italian drug producers are planning broader joint research to develop efficient processes to produce new antbiotics. Cooperation is being envisioned in the production of antibiotics with a broad range of effects, especially to treat acute inflammatory conditions, such as sepsis, acute pulmonary suppurations and chronic kidney diseases. An agreement on cooperation was today signed by the State Committee of the USSR for Science and Technology, the industry of the medical and microbiological industry of the USSR and Italy's Pressindustria company. The first stage of joint research is going to be conducted in 1987-1991. Further on, as the program of research is fulfilled, the sides are planning the production of antibiotics for export to third countries. Soviet and Italian drug producers already have an experience of cooperation in work both on new anti-biotics and on other medicinal preparations, TASS was told by the Ministry of the medical and Microbiological industry of the USSR. Soviet organizations and Italian companies also are carrying out mutual supplies of raw materials and semi-manufactures for laboratory research. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 2014 GMT 4 Mar 87 LD]

EGYPT'S 'MILITARY DEBTS' ONLY RESCHEDULED

NC251713 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1645 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 25 Mar (MENA) -- MENA has learned that the recent agreement between Egypt and the Soviet Union on the rescheduling of debts applies only to the military debts which were frozen in 1977. Egypt pays its civil debts on time and there are no problems in this regard. A responsible economic source has stated that the Soviet Union has also agreed that the repayment of the military debts, including the interest, be made in commodities and products, to be agreed on through the current trade protocol between the two countries.

During Dr Yusri Mustafa's 8 days of talks with Soviet officials, the Soviet Union agreed to reschedule the military debts for 25 years, with a 6-year grace period. It should be noted that an Egyptian delegation led by Economy Minister Dr Yusri Mustafa went to Moscow on 17 March for talks on rescheduling Egypt's debts to the Soviet Union. The Egyptian delegation is due to return to Cairo tomorrow.

PARLIAMENTARIANS DEPART ON VISIT TO JORDAN

Seen Off By Ryuytel

LD240731 Moscow TASS in English 0715 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 24 TASS -- A delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Vladimir Orlov, vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, left Moscow today on an official visit to Jordan at the invitation of the parliament of this country. The delegation includes deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet Grigoriy Yeremey, Sergey Losev and Abdusattor Sharipov.

The delegation was seen of at the airport by Arnold Ryuytel, vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and other officials.

Received By King

LD252213 Moscow TASS in English 2116 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Amman March 25 TASS -- King Husayn of Jordan today received a delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR led by Vladimir Orlov, vice president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation.

During a friendly talk, King Husayn spoke highly of the Soviet Union's policy aimed at achieving a just and comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and at restoring the lawful rights of the Palestinian people.

The head of the Jordanian state expressed gratitude to the Soviet leadership for the efforts to defend the just struggle to withdraw Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories and establish lasting peace in the Middle East.

He noted with satisfaction the Soviet Union's consistent and persevering effort to guarantee peace and security all over the world, to deliver mankind of the threat of nuclear holocaust.

King Husayn emphasized that the visit by the Soviet parliamentary delegation would give a fresh impetus to the development of relations between the Soviet Union and Jordan.

The Soviet parliamentary delegation met Jordanian senators who spoke with wrath and pain about the flouting of human rights on the Israeli-seized Arab territories. It was noted during the talk that Tel Aviv went ahead with setting up militarized Israeli settlements in the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip, practised torture and brutal repression against all Arabs who campaigned for the implementation of the Palestinians' inalienable right to self-determination and creating an independent national state. The sides specially noted that in carrying through their annexationist plans the Israeli aggressors were aided and abetted by the United States.

The Jordanian senators reaffirmed that Jordan vigorously supported the idea of convening an international conference on the Middle East and considered its earliest convocation as the most correct way towards the settlement of the Middle East crisis.

IRANIAN EDUCATION DELEGATION HOLDS MOSCOW TALKS

LD260049 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] An education and training delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, currently visiting the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR minister of higher education and vocational training, today met with the minister. They discussed the exchanged views on educational, training, scientific, vocational and agricultural matters. The Iranian delegation is led by Ahmadi.

The delegation also met and held talks with deputy chairmen of the USSR state committees for Vocational Training and with Soviet deputy ministers of education and training and higher educational and vocational training.

PAPER CITES KHAMENE'I ON TOWER COMMISSION

PM231227 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 22 Mar 87 p 3

[TASS report: "Charge of Lying"]

[Text] Nicosia, 21 Mar -- Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has accused the U.S. Administration of deliberately lying. Speaking in Tehran yesterday, he stated that the Tower Commission report prepared in the United States and touching on the secret arms deliveries to Iran contains facts mixed with blatant fabrication. This has been done to prevent the further decline of the U.S. President's prestige. "Irangate," Khamene'i noted, has ended in a total fiasco for Reagan and has discredited him as head of state.

He announced that Iran will soon publish its own report setting out the real facts which were deliberately omitted by the Tower Commission. The Iranian document will give answers to all the questions which still remain unclear.

The Americans, Khamene'i stressed, undertook this risky step in the hope of creating a bridgehead for themselves in Iran as a country bordering on the USSR. "But, having entered the game with ambitious goals, they left the field with broken legs," he said.

IRAN'S ISLAMIC GUARDS ATTACKED IN BAKHTARAN

NC240951 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] The Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization [MKO] has reported that its combatants have killed 76 Guards [of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps] and wounded 15 in a 2-hour clash in the vicinity of Sar-e Pol-e Zahab in Bakhtaran Province. A considerable part of the 3d Ansa-e Rasul Brigade, which was engaged in repressive operations in the vast Bakhtaran region, was wiped out. The MKO combatants did not sustain any casualties.

Some of the MKO units occupied a base in Dehloran District in Ilam Province and killed 35 Guards, one of whom was Lieutenant Shahrahi, the base commander.

ALGERIAN MINISTER CITED ON COOPERATION WITH USSR

PM241615 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 March 1987 First Edition carries on page 7 a 900-word report by S. Filatov, PRAVDA Correspondent, under the heading "They Called the Well 'Russian'" on the topic of USSR-Algerian cooperation. The report explores the role played by Soviet hydrogeologists in the development of Algeria's water supply system and particularly in the city of Batna and the surrounding region. Explaining the origins of this Soviet assistance, Filatov says:

"The political basis for future economic cooperation with Algeria was created when the Soviet Union established diplomatic relations with the Algerian Republic's provisional government. This happened on 23 March 1962, that is, even before the country's independence had been officially proclaimed. A sovereign Algeria came into being several months later. Not long afterwards, in December 1963, the first agreement was concluded on economic and technical cooperation between the USSR and Algeria.

"Since that day, A. Khellef, cochairman of the standing Soviet-Algerian intergovernmental commission for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation and Algerian minister of finance, told our PRAVDA correspondent, our cooperation has been constantly implemented in sectors that are important to the national economy, such as ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, the oil and gas industry, power engineering, water resources, and others.

"A distinctive feature of Soviet-Algerian cooperation is its dynamic development, A. Khellef continued. This cooperation was given new and powerful impetus with the signing in 1986 of a number of important joint documents envisaging its further growth in the most diverse areas."

Work to develop the Algerian water supply system is still in progress today, Filatov notes in conclusion, although "we now have fewer specialists in Algeria, because with their assistance Algerian experts have come up who are capable on their own of resolving tasks" relating to the water supply system.

FROLOV-LED CPSU DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR MEXICO

PM241419 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading: "Delegation Departures"]

[Text] The CPSU delegation to the Third Unified Socialist Party of Mexico Congress, headed by I.T. Frolov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief editor of KOMMUNIST, left Moscow for Mexico city on 23 March.

PRAVDA DESCRIBES 'POLITICAL MAP' IN NICARAGUA

PM250826 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Mar 87 Second Edition p 4

[Special correspondent A. Moiseyev reportage under the rubric "From a Nicaraguan Notebook": "'Here Nobody Surrenders!'"]

[Excerpts] Managua, Moscow -- For a panoramic view of the Nicaraguan capital, you have to climb to the top story of one of the two high-rise buildings here, such as the Intercontinental Hotel. From here Managua is a sea of waste land in which the ruins and shells of houses in what was once the historical center, destroyed by the earthquake in December 1972, appear to float. Alongside the island-oases of residential districts submerged in greenery, there are the plank-built hovels of the slums, the lamentable legacy of the Somoza dictatorship.

Although in recent years Managua has grown markedly and several thousand small, pleasant houses have been built, many primitive housing structures made of boards and cardboard have appeared. This is the result of the migration of many thousands of people from rural localities to the capital. [passage omitted]

People in Managua talk frankly about difficulties, failures, and mistakes. For instance, inflation which is approaching 700 percent a year, the fall in production in the private sector, corruption and speculation, which do serious damage to the country.

"Those who steal or buy up goods to sell them later at astronomical prices are our worst enemies," Francisco Largaespada, an employee of a bank in the capital, said. "They undermine people's faith in the justice of the revolution, they are worse than the contras."

In Managua, and all over the country, public inspection groups are being set up, made up of workers and peasants who, at their own enterprises and cooperatives, keep watch to make sure that any goods, every pound of rice, corn, or beans, go directly into the state distribution network, rather than slipping away "on the side" for sale at speculative prices.

Explaining this to me, a journalist of my acquaintance reminded me of the lines of Ernesto Cardenal, a well known poet here and now minister of culture, which embody the image of the Nicaraguan worker:

"Get up, Juan Nicaragua, pick up your machete.

"You still have plenty of weeds to uproot"...

It was in the noonday heat that I approached the building where the Nicaraguan parliament -- the National Assembly -- sits. It was here that the deputies recently voted for the first truly democratic fundamental law in the republic's history.

A closely shaven middle-aged man rose from behind a large desk to meet me in the spacious hall. Natan Sevilla, National Assembly deputy from the Sandinist National Liberation Front, told me in detail about that important event:

"Before the new Constitution was adopted, major preparatory work was done. A special commission studied the constitutions of a number of socialist countries and states of Western Europe and Latin America. A draft was drawn up and proposals from political parties and public organizations were examined. The draft was submitted for nationwide discussion, in the course of which the Nicaraguans submitted more than 60,000 proposals and amendments.

"The process of drafting the constitution was complex and sometimes dramatic," my interlocutor went on. "Certain representatives of opposition parties, for instance, refused to sign the draft. The U.S. Embassy in Managua also tried to hinder us, sparing no effort to knock together a bloc of parties to obstruct the constitutional process. But our enemies miscalculated."

The Constitution lays down that power in the country belongs to the people. It proclaims political pluralism, a mixed economy, and, in the international arena, the principle of nonalignment. The fundamental law assigns an important place to citizens' rights and duties. Nicaragua's working people have the right to take part in the management of enterprises through the trade unions (there are more than 5,600 trade union organizations in the country, uniting nearly 250,000 people). Equal pay for equal work, an 8-hour working day, the right to a free day, paid leave, and so forth are guaranteed.

At the same time the political struggle over the constitution is not dying down, and that includes the struggle within the National Assembly. That is understandable: The political map of the republic is many-colored. Apart from the opposition parties represented in parliament, there are also the "democratic coordination commission" -- a bloc of centrist and right-centrist parties; the supreme council of private enterprise; and the Catholic Church leadership. Expressing the interests mainly of the moyenne bourgeoisie, they exert pressure on the Sandinists, trying to make them turn aside onto the path of capitalist development and "reorient" toward the United States.

Four opposition parties recently demanded the imposition of the state of emergency in the country be deemed "illegal." They deliberately ignored the fact that the Sandinist leadership was forced to take that step because of the armed aggression from U.S. imperialist hirelings and that the new fundamental law grants the president the right to impose a state of emergency. Characteristically, the Supreme Court assessed the opposition parties' demand as unjustified.

U.S. TO HOLD MILITARY EXERCISES IN CARIBBEAN

LD232043 Moscow TASS in English 2006 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 23 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Nikolay Chigir writes:

The U.S. is starting another major militaristic action in Central America and the Caribbean Basin: It is planning to hold there next May the "Solid Shield" military exercise. 50,000 officers and men of the U.S. Air Force, Navy, Army, and Coast Guard will take part in it.

The territory of Honduras will be the main area of staging this provocative action. That country has long been turned into a place d'armes of aggression against Nicaragua. The new military exercise of the Pentagon will be timed to coincide with the so-called "spring offensive" of Honduras-based gangs of contras against the Sandinist revolution.

This coincidence alone shows that "Solid Shield" will be an openly anti-Nicaraguan action capable of bringing about most serious consequences. The thing is that U.S. troops that will arrive in Honduras will act as a rear covering force for the contras who are getting prepared to invade Nicaragua in April or May under the guidance of the CIA and the Pentagon.

One can hardly rule out a possibility of the U.S. Armed Forces being drawn into another anti-Nicaraguan venture staged by the mercenary contras groups. THE NEW YORK TIMES wrote that Washington officials would prefer to topple the Nicaraguan Government by military means.

There are other facts proving that the forces in Washington which count on dealing with Nicaragua by military means are getting ever more active. For example, the White House is busy supplying the contras gangs with money and armaments, which constituted an open violation of U.S. laws, to say nothing of the international law. The "Irangate" scandal confirmed it in a most striking way.

The facts that were made public recently on the granting by the CIA to the contras of intelligence data on civilian and strategic facilities of Nicaragua, the first to be destroyed during the "spring offensive" of Somoza cutthroats, are evidence of the escalation of U.S. state terrorism. It is also noteworthy that reports began to appear recently to the effect that certain circles of U.S. Congress were discussing the problem of the severing of diplomatic relations with Nicaragua. According to Frank Carlucci, assistant to the President for national security affairs, a possibility of this step will be seriously analyzed by the administration.

No one and nothing in Central America and the Caribbean is threatening the United States. It is the other way around: The U.S. is really posing a threat to the security of other countries which do not wish to reconcile themselves to its diktat, primarily to the security of independent Nicaragua.

POLITBURO DISCUSSES ECONOMIC PLAN, SCIENCE

LD261916 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] At a session which took place on 26 March, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo considered the issue of measures to ensure the fulfillment of targets for developing the material and technical base in the social and cultural sphere which have been approved for the 12th 5-Year Plan.

It was noted that the plan for the commissioning of housing, of general education schools, and of out-patient health centers was fulfilled in 1986. However, a fundamental breakthrough in this sphere has not taken place. The targets for the equipping of hospitals, childrens' preschool establishments, clubs and professional-technological institutes have not been fulfilled.

A sharp evaluation of the shortcomings in resolving issues which have a bearing on vital interests of the working people, deficiencies in the related work of the Central Committees of the Communist Parties and Councils of Ministers of the union republics, ministries and departments, was given at the Central Committee Politburo.

A range of measures on implementing the program of social-cultural construction for 1988-1990 was outlined for the unconditional fulfillment of the 5-year plan targets for commissioning projects in the social and cultural sphere. The task was set to make up for the lag which had been permitted, and the targets for the commissioning of housing -- up to 630 million square meters as against 595 million square meters according to the plan approved for the 5-year plan -- were also defined more precisely.

It was proposed that the Councils of Ministers of the union republics, the ministries and departments provide projects in the social and cultural sphere with the requisite volumes of contract work in strict accordance with the existing norms on the duration of construction work, accelerate the widespread application of a 2-year period of planning the construction of the projects noted, direct no less than an additional 10 percent of capital investments envisaged for industrial construction at the expense of all its sources toward new housing and other projects in the social and cultural sphere, strengthen construction organizations, provide them with the necessary assistance and intensify the demand for set targets to be fulfilled.

It was stressed that implementation of the planned program to accelerate the development of the material-technical base of the social sphere must become a matter of prime political importance for all party, state and public organizations. It was proposed that fulfillment of the established plans for housing and amenity construction be placed under constant supervision and that there should be greater openness [glasnost] in work on their implementation.

The Central Committee Politburo also discussed the question of improving the scientific back-up of the development of the country's agro-industrial complex. It was noted that scientific projects are falling seriously behind the demands of life and the requirements of practice, and that there are shortcomings in the manner the available scientific potential is being utilized. It was pointed out that it is necessary to deepen fundamental and applied research, speed up the industrial introduction of the achievements of science and of advanced technics, and expand the participation in this of the research and production collectives on the basis of the development of financial-autonomy and contract relations and of enhancing the role of the Vaskhnil as the highest scientific center in the agro-industrial complex.

It was deemed desirable to draw up and put into effect measures to develop the material-technical base of science, and also to improve pay and labor incentives for scientific workers, designers, technologists and specialists and radically improve their training and retraining.

The session discussed reports by Eduard Shevardnadze on the results of his visits to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Laotian People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea, Australia, Indonesia and Thailand, and by Aleksandra Biryukova on the visit of a CPSU delegation to Vietnam.

The Central Committee Politburo also examined certain other questions of the implementation of the decisions of the 27th party congress in the sphere of domestic and foreign policy.

UKRAINIAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE HOLDS PLENUM

PM241605 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Plenum of Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] Kiev, 24 Mar -- A plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee opened here today. It is discussing the tasks of the republic's party organizations to deepen the restructuring process and improve cadre work in line with the decisions of the January (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. The report was delivered by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

From positions of criticism and self-criticism the plenum participants are comprehensively analyzing what has been done since the 27th party congress and are defining those links in the chain of tasks where it is primarily necessary to concentrate efforts. Emphasis is being placed on the need to eliminate shortcomings decisively, to surmount conservatism and stagnant phenomena, and to support more actively everything progressive [peredovoye] that emerges in the course of the restructuring process.

The plenum is continuing its work.

Participants Listed

LD251059 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1615 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] A plenary session of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee began work today. The plenum is to discuss the tasks of the republic's party organizations in deepening restructuring and improving cadre work in accordance with the decisions of the January 1987 plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

Comrade Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a report.

Taking part in the discussion were: Comrades Mysnichenko, first secretary of the Kharkov Obkom; Grintsov, first secretary of the Sumy Obkom; (Chirishin), steel-maker at the Zaporizhstal metallurgical combine named after Ordzhonikidze;

Yelchenko, first secretary of the Kiev Gorkom; (Omelchenko), first secretary of the Dnepropetrovsk Gorkom; (Vorobyev), secretary of the party committee at the Kalush (Khlorvinil) production association named after the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, in Ivano-Frankovsk Oblast; Lyashko, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers; Mironov, first secretary of the Donetsk Obkom; (Droholyuntsev), team leader of an integrated multishift team at the Voroshilovrad motor locomotive production association; Dikusarov, first secretary of the Khmelnitskiy Obkom; (Vilchinskiy), chairman of the Druzhba Kolkhoz in Vinnitskiy Rayon in Vinnitsa Oblast; Shevchenko, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; (Karpenko), team leader of an integrated team of the Prombud industrial construction and assembly directorate of the Ternopolprombud trust; (Parkhomenko), Ukrainian SSR minister of higher and secondary specialized education; (Bankerovskiy), first secretary of the Novotroitskiy Raykom in Kherson Oblast; (Biblik), general director of the Kharkov tractor works production association named after Ordzhonikidze; Osipov, commander of the Red Banner Kiev Military Okrug; (Kozhushko), chief of the Donetsk railway; (Sichnyak), director and chief of the seed-breeding laboratory of the academy of Agricultural Sciences All-Union Selection and Genetics Institute in Odessa; (Baranov), director of the Gazety Sotsialisticheskiy Donbass mine directorate of the Donetskugol production association; and (Korneva), director of the Kiev experimental knitted goods factory (?of Kiyanova).

(Babochin), chief of a sector of the organizational party work department of the CPSU Central Committee, is taking part in the work of the plenum.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee plenary meeting will continue tomorrow.

Shortcomings Discussed

LD241637 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] A plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee opened in Kiev today. The tasks of the republic's party organizations concerned with further restructuring and improving cadre work in keeping with the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum were discussed.

A report was delivered by Comrade Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

Participants in the plenum are conducting a critical and self-critical general analysis of what has been done since the 27th CPSU Congress and defining those links in the chain of tasks where efforts must be primarily concentrated. They are stressing the need to resolutely remove shortcomings, overcome conservative and stagnant elements, and actively support everything positive which is engendered in the process of restructuring. The plenum is continuing its work.

Shcherbitskiy Address

LD250477 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 2015 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] A plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee began work today.

Submitted for the consideration of the plenum is the issue: The tasks of the republic's party organizations in deepening restructuring and improving cadre work in accordance with the decisions of the January 1987 plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

Vladimir Vasiliyevich Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party, delivered a report. Comrade Shcherbitskiy stressed: The CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum became an event of exceptional importance in the life of the CPSU and Soviet society. Guided by tested Leninist principles and by the already accumulated experience in working in a new way, the CPSU Central Committee Plenum, in an atmosphere of creativity and adherence to principle and unity, considered the key question of the present crucial period in the history of our country; the question of restructuring and the party's cadre policy.

The speech delivered by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the plenum's decision gave a profound analysis of the situation within society and the party and specified the strategy of restructuring. The basic theses of the 27th party congress and the Central Committee January Plenum were further developed in the appeal of the CPSU Central Committee to the Soviet people, in the decision of the CPSU Central Committee on preparations for the 70th anniversary of Great October, in the speeches of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev during his visit to the Baltic republics, at the 18th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions, and also in his statement of 28 February on removing medium-range missiles from Europe.

Concerning restructuring in the republic's economy, Comrade Shcherbitskiy stressed that in 1986 we were more successful than in preceding years. It is very important that already in the first year, the average annual growth rates planned for the 5-year plan period have been attained in the Republic's national economy, and according to a number of indices, have even been exceeded. The Central Committee Politburo of the Ukrainian Communist Party considers, said Comrade Shcherbitskiy, that restructuring in the republic, including in the economic sphere, is still proceeding slowly. The appraisals of the Central Committee January Plenum and the criticism contained in its documents also concern our republic and the work of its party organizations.

First and foremost the possibilities for economic methods of management are as yet far from being utilized to full measure. In this regard the report critically analyzed the situation in light industry; in the system of the Main Administration of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry; in the Ministries of Ferrous Metallurgy and of the Construction Materials Industry; and in the republic's State Agro-Industrial Committee, and named concrete culprits of these shortcomings. The acceleration of social and economic development, said Comrade Shcherbitskiy, is also [word indistinct] by the fact that the line for the reconstruction and technical reequipping of enterprises is still not being carried out with sufficient consistency. The achievements of scientific and technological progress are being introduced slowly. The state of affairs in machine-building is particularly worrying. The raising of the technical level in industry is being delayed by the fact that scientific establishments are restructuring their work slowly. To add greater dynamism to the economy, stressed the report, it is necessary to substantially increase the return of the available potential and not to forget about such tested methods as the strengthening of discipline and good organization in production. Named among the measures that give a significant and positive effect were the assessment and rationalization of jobs and the logical continuation of the transfer of associations and enterprises to a multi-shift regime of work. Experience of exactly this type has accumulated in Kharkov.

In the new conditions raising the quality of goods is becoming more important. The introduction of state acceptance of products has become a genuine test of the ability of our cadres to work in a new manner.

Comrade Shcherbitskiy then discussed current tasks and analyzed the reasons for the disruptions that had been permitted in branches of the economy. The importance was stressed of putting into effect immediate measures so that in the shortest possible time, by April and May, the lagging behind that had been allowed should be eliminated and steps should be made into the rhthym of the annual plan. The main task is not only to consolidate what was achieved in the first year of the 5-year plan period, but also to ensure greater substantial improvements and to give them a lasting character. In this regard the report drew particular attention to matters connected with contractual discipline, construction, the work of organizations and of the agro-industrial complex. The number one task is the obtaining of a gross yield of grain no less than 50.5 million tonnes.

Comrade Shcherbitskiy's report at the plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee took a detailed look at the development of the republic's social sphere. The work of the Sumy city party organization in this direction was particularly noted. The social and cultural reconstruction of villages is being carried out purposefully in Donetsk, Crimea, Poltava, and a number of other oblasts. It is planned to turn over for use an additional 40,000 apartments this year. However, there have been cases where costs for projects of this type have been allocated, but then the funds have not been used. Unfortunately, there have not been isolated cases.

This was exactly what happened last year through the fault of the republic's ministries of ferrous metallurgy, land improvement and water conservancy, light industry, and the Odessa Kherson Oblispolkoms. Medical services are improving their work extremely slowly, no fundamental changes have occurred in the saturation of the market with high-quality goods and everyday services; there are shortcomings in the work of cultural establishments.

Significant attention was paid in the report to the implementation of the party decision on the democratization of public life and to the development of openness [glasnost], criticism and self-criticism. In particular, the following data was produced: 462 leaders of enterprises in industry, construction, the transportation sector and directors of state farms; more than 25,000 chiefs of shops, foremen, and team leaders; 18,500 team leaders and team section leaders at kolkhozes and sovkhozes have been elected in the republic. The speaker emphasized it is necessary to improve the personnel of the apparatus of local soviet bodies. Many executive committees are still far away from restructuring.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat, said Comrade Shcherbitskiy, are constantly in touch with the course of restructuring in localities, with the key questions of party guidance over social and economic development work. Over the last 2 years the Central Committee has discussed the reports submitted by almost all obkoms, many gorkoms and raykoms, and a number of ministries and departments and oblispolkoms.

However, it should be stressed that both in the work of the Central Committee, in the Council of Ministers, and in many bodies in the provinces there is not enough consistent deep control over the execution of adopted decisions.

In talking about the necessity to expand openness and the development of criticism and self-criticism, Comrade Shcherebitskiy said: If you cast aside niceties, then without fail you reach the simple conclusion: The main reason for everything that took place in the Voroshilovgrad, Lvov, and Dnepropetrovsk Oblast party committees was the absence of genuine democratism and openness, and the absence of criticism and self-criticism. The princiles of collectiveness in leadership were violated. Matters requiring discussion were resolved by individuals. In sum, all of this led to complacency, belief in the infallibility of one's own point of view, and even to a contemptuous attitude toward the law. One cannot say serious shortcomings in style of work were not pointed out to the first secretaries of these oblast committees. They were pointed out, and repeatedly -- at plenums, meetings of the Politburo and the secretariat of the Central Committee, and at meetings and discussions in the Central Committee -- but unfortunately they did not draw the appropriate conclusions.

Comrade Shcherbitskiy then dwelt at length on the need to improve the work with cadres as a decisive link of restructuring. Citing specific examples, he showed how certain party committees tolerate people in leading positions who are not only unable to ensure restructuring in the sectors in their charge, but for years have not been able to pull their weight. To raise the cadre work to the level of present-day requirements, Comrade Shcherbitskiy stressed, it is necessary first to ensure that succession works (spadkoyemnist), to solve urgent cadre questions in good time, and to bring in able people and bold, fresh reinforcement in a planned fashion. Second, the party organizations are called on to strengthen the development of cadres, to instill them with a sharpened attitude toward shortcomings, and to increase understanding of the need for wide democratization and openness. Third, in improving the matter of selecting and developing cadres, one cannot under any circumstances forget that the cadre policy is a class policy. Fourth, it is of principal importance in the cadre work to take into consideration the process of deepening the internationalization of all aspects of our society.

Particular attention was paid by Comrade Shcherbitskiy to the main tasks regarding improving work with certain categories of cadres. A great deal still has to be done, in particular, to genuinely draw into restructuring all detachments of the ideological front. Particular attention was paid to the cadres of law-enforcement organs where the restructuring of work is being carried out with insuficient determination. In conclusion, Comrade Shcherbitskiy said:

The CPSU Central Committee January Plenum stated in its decision that success in restructuring will be determined to a decisive degree by how fast and how deep our cadres will be imbued with understanding the need for revolutionary changes and to what degree they will decisively, energetically, and competently act. Only in such conditions will we be able to ensure both the necessary pace for our forward advancement and depth of qualitative transformations in the economic, social, and spiritual spheres and the whole cause of acceleration. To achieve this, all of us will have to work together, strenuously and energetically, and solve purposefully and in good time the tasks set before us by life.

Plenum Ends, Officials Released

LD261329 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] The Central Committee Plenum of the Communist Party of the Ukraine continued its work on 25 March.

The question of the tasks of the republic's party organizations in deepening restructuring and improving cadre work in accordance with the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum was reviewed in the speeches by Plyushch, chairman of the Kiev Oblispolkom; Kavun, first secretary of the Zhitomir Obkom; Paton, president of the UKSSR Academy of Sciences, director of the "Paton" electric welding institute; Kolomiyets, first deputy chairman of the UKSSR Council of Ministers, chairman of the republic's Agro-Industrial Committee; Aprintseva, deputy director of the "Kineskop" production association named after the 26th party congress; Bandrovskiy, first secretary of the Trans-Carpathian Obkom; Okhmakevich, chairman of the UKSSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting; (Luzhba), first secretary of the Sumy Gorkom; Zakharenko, school director from Korsun-Shevchenkovskiy Rayon; Bereza, team leader of the "Chapayev" Kolkhoz, Lutsk Rayon, Volyn Oblast; Makarov, director of the Black Sea ship-building works, Nikolayev.

Comrade Vladimir Vasilyevich Shcherbitskiy delivered a concluding speech.

On the question under discussion, the plenum passed a decision which will be published in the press.

The plenum examined an organizational question. Regarding Comrade Pogrebnyak being elected first secretary of the Lvov party obkom, he is released from the post of secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine, Comrade Gurenko is elected candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine. He was until now [as heard] deputy chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers.

The plenum released Comrade Dobrik from the post of candidate member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine.

This concluded the work of the plenum.

IZVESTIYA Reports Final Day

PM261527 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report under the general heading: "To Work Creatively and With Initiative"]

[Text] Kiev, 25 Mar -- Every day brings more and more new confirmation that restructuring is already a reality. It is supported by Communists and by the entire Ukrainian people and has assumed an irreversible nature in the republic, as it has throughout the country. This was emphasized at the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee plenum which ended today. V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, delivered the report at the plenum.

Discussing the tasks of the republic's party organization in deepening restructuring and improving work with cadres in accordance with the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum decisions, the plenum participants pointed out that the average annual growth rates planned for the 5-year plan were achieved in the republic's national economy during last year and were even exceeded with regard to a number of indicators.

It was noted that profound qualitative changes that would stabilize the positive trends have not yet occurred.

The plenum participants spoke of the need to consistently implement the party's guidelines on democratizing social life, extending openness, and developing criticism, self-criticism, and collegiality in work. Disregard for those principles has led to serious shortcomings in the activities of the Voroshilovgrad, Dnepropetrovsk, and Lvov party obkom bureaus.

The improvement of cadre work is a decisive link in restructuring, it was emphasized at the plenum.

TERNOPOL OBKOM PLENUM NOTES LEADERSHIP CHANGES

AU251755 Kiev RADYANSKA UKRAINA in Ukrainian 21 Mar 87 p 3

[RATAU report: "Working Creatively, Supporting Everything New, Advanced"]

[Excerpts] A Ternopol Obkom plenum was held on 20 March. Its participants discussed a report by Gusyatinskiy Raykom on implementing the decisions of the 27th party congress and the January 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum concerning the restructuring of party work.

The plenum noted that, after the party congress, the rayon had made a turn toward brisk organizational work among people, and that efficiency and constructiveness had gained a foothold in settling key problems concerning the rayon's national economic development, and primarily the leading branch in the rayon's economy, agricultural production. This has positively affected the situation. The 1986 plans for the output and sales to the state of all major farm produce had been fulfilled.

At the same time, the restructuring work carried out in the rayon has not met the requirements of the 27th CPSU Congress and the directives of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum. The raykom and its bureau, the speakers noted, have not made full use of the conditions for profound qualitative changes in the rayon's public and economic life. Party organizations and administrative and economic organs still have not aimed their work sufficiently toward finding and utilizing reserves to raise labor productivity, to improve product quality, and to intensify the economy's drive. [passage omitted]

The plenum examined an organizational issue. A.I. Korniyenko was relieved of the duties of obkom first secretary in connection with his being confirmed in the post of Organizational Party Work Department chief in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. B.Ye. Ostrozhynskiy, hitherto Zhitomir Obkom second secretary, was elected Ternopol Obkom first secretary.

The plenum was addressed by I.A. Mozgovoy, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and secretary.

PRAVDA DETAILS LITHUANIAN CP CC PLENUM

PM251615 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Mar 87 First Edition p 2

[Report by correspondent D. Shnyukas: "Through the Prism of Exactingness. From the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Vilnius -- The Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee plenum, devoted to the results of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum, was, the participants all agreed, different from previous ones. During the preparations for it a group of Central Committee members and candidate members and members of the auditing commission toured the republic. They talked with ordinary workers, kolkhoz members, and many Communists about the restructuring process, about what changes were taking place and in what direction. At the plenum there were far more speakers -- 19 -- than usual, which made for a more thorough analysis of the problems of cadre policy and democratization. No one can remember three Central Committee secretaries and the chairmen of the republic's Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers speaking at the same plenum before. The area of criticism had clearly widened -- it was leveled at leaders of ministries, the Council of Ministers, and departments of the republican Central Committee.

The Barometer of Change [subhead]

The state of affairs in the national economy is a very important barometer of restructuring. This was the point made in the report delivered by P. Grishkyavichyus, first secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee. In the 1st year of the 5-year plan the republic coped with nearly all the plan targets and the national income increased by 3.9 percent compared with the planned 3.5 percent. Planned targets for increasing production and labor productivity in industry were exceeded by more than 50 percent. More housing was commissioned than planned.

But in a number of the main areas of scientific-technical progress and in the social sphere heavy weather is being made of the changes. Last year there was a failure to assimilate R62 million of capital investments intended for the modernization and retooling of enterprises. Poor use is being made of the scientific potential. Only 20 percent of financially autonomous work of VUZ's contains inventions. One in five of the studies carried out by academic institutes and VUZ's finds no application. There is worry about output quality -- Lithuania is clearly behind neighboring republics in this. The breakthrough in consumer goods production has not occurred, and at 22 enterprises things have even got worse.

The creation of the agro-industrial complex is having a beneficial effect on agricultural affairs: The annual plans for state purchases of the main types of products were fulfilled. But the potential is not being properly exploited. There is worry about the reduction in farm profitability -- for the first time in 5 years there were 12 loss-making kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Lithuania. The increase in yields was poor.

All these shortcomings remain because, speakers noted, conservatism, inertia, and obsolete ideas are reluctant to give way. Although there appear to be no overt opponents to restructuring, there are more than enough people who like going forward provided they are showered with benefits. The bulk of the work aimed at identifying and exploiting internal reserves will involve them.

Action Above All [subhead]

Naturally, the party organs should be the generators of restructuring. Alas, the changes in the work style and methods of many committees are too slow. Bureaucracy and information gathering by letter and telephone often still take the place of face-to-face organizational work with people in party organizations and worker collectives. The Kapsukas Gorkom and Kayshyadorskiy, Kelmeskiy, Utenskiy, and Lazdiyskiy party raykoms were mentioned in this connection. It is even worse when party leaders think that restructuring is a phase they personally have already been through. It was noted that there would have been no need to mention these phenomena if Central Committee departments above all the Party Organizational Work Department, had taken a more active stance on matters pertaining to changing leadership style.

N. Vaytkyavichyus, first secretary of Panevezhis party gorkom, cited the following figures: Last year 181 resolutions and 12 different schedules for measures were received from the Central Committee. We had to adopt our own plans on each of them -- in fact, usually the first question the inspection commission asks is: Where and when was a particular document discussed? Where is the schedule for measures? In other words, often paper is still the main work "indicator." The republic's agro-industrial committee and rayon associations are shy about changing their work style -- in this case the practice of deliberate plan adjustment and diktat from on high have not been eradicated.

A number of speakers drew attention to the work style of supervisory bodies. Strange as it may seem, instead of accelerating changes, they are sometimes an inhibiting factor because they are guided not by the spirit of restructuring, but by the letter of obsolete instructions. A vigorous leader, one striving to work in the new way, is more often than not frowned upon by bodies carrying out checks. The Shyaulyay "Vayras" Plant was visited during the year by 76 different commissions, most of them from the Ministry of the Automotive Industry, but, through the fault of the "Soyuzmotovelprom" Association, reconstruction is still a sluggish business.

An irresponsibly signed document can put an entire collective in an unenviable position. The ministry sent out a target for the "Ekranas" Plant in Panevezhis to increase production by 12.5 percent, but supply of the production lines to provide the increase is not promised until the third quarter. Through the fault of suppliers in the ministry of the communications facilities industry the Shyaulyay Television Plant failed to supply the trade with thousands of color television sets and the workers suffered a sharp drop in wages.

Does all this meet the requirements of restructuring? Who is responsible for these omissions?

There was severe criticism of leaders who merely create an impression that restructuring is going on, but are essentially operating in the old way and are not against pulling the wool over people's eyes. The following instance was cited. It was decided to make the construction of livestock-raising complexes and kolkhoz farmsteads cheaper. How is it done? Very easy: Cancel plans for buildings for stockmen's recreational and everyday needs.

Learning Democracy [subhead]

More and more reports are coming in from the republic's cities and villages about the election of leaders at enterprises and in sovkhozes. It is something new and good. [paragraph continues]

But, as was noted on the platform, this important process is being carried out rather timidly, with a hint of over-regimentation and formalism. In some places they have still not shaken off the habit of curbing labor collectives' initiative. They prefer, for example, one candidate to be nominated, as in the past. What choice is there then?

A compulsory condition of the success of restructuring is the replacement of cadres and a more youthful setup. It was said at the plenum that it is important, on the one hand, not to allow a musical chairs situation and, on the other hand, to carefully weigh in each individual case the pros and cons of comrades -- those already working and those who are newly elected. Elements of stagnation are still evident. One in four section chiefs in such an exceptionally important body as the republic's Gosplan is of pension age. To some extent this also applies to personnel in a number of ministries, enterprises, and the mass news and propaganda media.

Often the cadre reserve is settled formally -- without proper openness, without considering the views of the primary party organization and labor collective. One can only describe as blitz tactics instances where the bureaus of the Prenayskiy, Kaunasskiy, and Skuodasskiy party Raykoms have approved between 6 and 10 reports on nomenklatura personnel in one sitting. Certification of leading personnel in Anikshyayskiy, Birzhayskiy, and other rayons has hitherto been a formal affair, without any conclusions being drawn and without any consequences. The practice of transplanting failures from one leading post to another is still alive and kicking. There was criticism of the republican Central Committee in this connection.

There was a keen and anxious discussion about the clean and honest image of the leader, about the ruthless struggle against favoritism and promotion of personnel because of home town links or personal devotion. Last year 636 leaders of various ranks were punished for money-grubbing, empire-building, drunkenness, or moral turpitude.

In line with the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum, the republic party organization is elaborating measures to make international and patriotic education more effective, to train cadres of different nationalities, and ensure their fair representation on elected bodies. It was noted that on these and other matters of ideological and educational work the republic's social scientists are as yet making a rather modest contribution.

The Central Committee members voiced concern at the state of affairs in the struggle agains drunkeness and alcoholism. Having been driven out of enterprises, this evil is holding a line of defense in the home. Home distilling and liquor profiteering are spreading. Some party and soviet bodies are not doing their best at the moment in the struggle against this scourge.

Having unanimously approved the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum, the plenum outlined a specific program for their implementation.

PUGO: CURRENT RESTRUCTURING 'GLIDES OVER SURFACE'

LD211908 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] The restructuring of Latvia's economy has not yet acquired a stable pace.

This has been shown by the fact that industry has failed to fulfill the plan for the first 2 months of this year. This was noted at the plenum of the republic Communist Party Central Committee that today took place. The tasks of the republic party organization for the deepening of restructuring and improving work with cadres in line with the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum and the recommendations of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, during his visit to the Latvian SSR, were discussed.

Comrade Pugo, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, who gave a report, and other speakers, when analyzing the causes of shortcomings, noted that the restructuring now underway in the republic often just glides over the surface. The deep-laid potentials of acceleration have not yet been put to use. The proposals received during preparations for the plenum from communist members of the republican Communist Party Central Committee on ways to eliminate the procrastination that has been tolerated in the national economy were analyzed and errors in the technical reequipment of production and in utilization of the republican agricultural and industrial potential were defined in the endorsed decision.

YOUTH DAILY REPORTS GEORGIAN KOMSOMOL CONGRESS

PM191039 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 87 p 2

[Report by special correspondents N. Kvizhindadze and S. Kozheurov: "Not To Be Deceived by a Semblance of Work. Notes from the 33d Georgian Komsomol Congress"]

[Excerpts] Tbilisi -- [passage omitted] It is not always important what people say, but it is always important how they say it. This at first sight paradoxical but very profound remark came from A.M. Gorkiy. It is also important how people listen.

The delegates assembled for the 33d Republic Komsomol Congress listened to the speakers very attentively, as though weighing every sentence on the scales of our strict times and sifting really businesslike and constructive proposals and sharp but fair criticism from ostentatious breast-beating and verbal chaff amplified by powerful loudspeakers. They were in no hurry to applaud where previously they would not have spared the palms of their hands.

E. Shamba, first secretary of the Georgian Komsomol's Abkhaz Oblast Committee, spoke very accurately of the consequences of ostentation and idle talk -- also a kind of "natural disaster" in Komsomol work: "While we were writing fine slogans, young people were drawing away from us." He cited facts which could not fail to meet with the delegates' anxious understanding. Throughout the period under review the Komsomol oblast committee received just 14 letters in which Komsomol members appealed for help or support. They do not write, but do they come, in person, perhaps? That hardly happens either. We Komsomol workers have been losing our authority. Who would turn for help to someone who thinks not about work but about himself and about how best to get himself fixed up?

Fair words, although, perhaps, offensive to many. And the conclusion. "We cannot carry out restructuring until careerism has been eradicated." [passage omitted]

Work and semblance of work. The Georgian Komsomol Central Committee's report, delivered by D. Margvelidze, its first secretary, named many really specific things of which the republic Komsomol can be proud. These include patronage of 8 all-union shock Komsomol projects, 14 republic ones, the Rustavi Metallurgical Plant, the "Azot" and "Khimvolokno" Production Associations, the Kutaisi Motor Vehicle Plant, and 7 farms of the agro-industrial complex. The republic's emissaries are honorably fulfilling their duty on the construction of agricultural projects in Vologda Oblast and thermal power complexes in Tyumen and the Tatar ASSR. Who does not know that Niya Station, constructed by Georgian Komsomol members, is one of the best on the Baykal-Amur Railroad!

These deeds also include an experiment in the development of student self-management on the Bagebi campus, where students themselves control the work of trade and consumer services projects and municipal services, and the organization of a training production enterprise based on the Saburtalinskiy Rayon kolkhoz market, which has shown that students of the Soviet Trade Technical College and the Cookery School cope excellently with the duties of inspectors, cashiers, and warehousemen, literally cutting the ground from beneath the market mafia, secondhand dealers, and extortionists who fleece peasants and city consumers.

But this is what is characteristic. This time the report contained many words such as these: "We did not do this," "we did not see it through to the end," and "we still have to tackle this."

Is this bad or good? It is a bad thing when a semblance of work really takes the place of work. For example, the Komsomol Central Committee proclaimed livestock raising the shock front of the republic Komsomol and sent into the sector approximately 4,000 people who 2-3 months later changed profession. As a result, the number of young people in the sector not only did not increase but even fell by 1,000. And it is a good thing -- because admitting what has not been done attests to a strengthening reluctance to camouflage omissions with talk of good intentions and with happy reports.

"Restructuring is a revolutionary, complex, and equivocal process," D.I. Patiashvili, first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, said at the congress. "But there are indisputable truths by which we must consistently abide... Is the importance of combating lies, hypocrisy, subservience, irresponsibility, slovenliness, abuses, and ostentation, which, unfortunately, has put down deep roots, not obvious?"

Who, then, is to head the struggle against these phenomena in the Komsomol? Who is obliged to draw a clear dividing line between work and a semblance of work and to separate businesslike efficiency from its crooked portrayal -- formalism and red tape?

The answer is obvious -- cadres. It is precisely in work with cadres that there are many serious shortcomings in the republic's Komsomol organizations. This was mentioned in almost every second speech at the congress.

Almost half the republic Komsomol Central Committee department chiefs, their deputies and sector chiefs, Abkhaz and Adzhar Oblast Committee apparatus workers, and city and rayon committee first secretaries have not worked in their own speciality. One in three of the dismissed "primary" secretaries had not previously had anything to do with that particular organization and had been promoted without taking into account the opinion of the labor collective or Komsomol members.

There is a particularly large number of shortcomings in the selection and placing of Komsomol cadres in vocational and technical schools. More than half of them have had nothing to do with the vocational and technical educational system. In Tbilisi, for example, not one of the vocational and technical school Komsomol organization secretaries has ever studied in such a school himself.

What are these, if not the obvious consequences of favoritism and attempts to use the Komsomol as a pad for launching into official party [nomenklaturnyy] orbit? No wonder that during a poll conduted by the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee Center for the Study of Public Opinion more than half of those polled pointed out that Komsomol workers are promoted on the basis of favoritism and nepotism.

These and other facts, including ones naming names, were mentioned at the congress. Unfortunately not in the report, which dealth fleetingly with questions of cadre policy, nor in the delegates' speeches, but in the speech of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary. Party committies, the Georgian Komsomol Central Committee, and members of its bureau, Comrade Patiashvili emphasized, must take a more strict, principled, and exacting stand on questions of selecting Komsomol cadres. On the other hand, the republic's Komsomol organizations themselves are also plainly being slow to develop democratic methods of promoting cadres. Not to mention primary organizations and groups, where elections must be held on a totally free and democratic basis, without any interference "from above." Our young people are politically mature and intelligent enough to make the correct choice.

At an organizational plenum of the Georgian Komsomol Central Committee D. Margvelidze was reelected first secretary of the Central Committee.

TV ON 27TH MOSCOW CITY KOMSOMOL CONFERENCE

LD241657 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1410 GMT on 23 March broadcasts a 30-minute report on the 27th Conference of the Moscow City Komsomol Organization. Special correspondent Vladimir Mezentsev introduces the report from the foyer of the conference proceedings without further specifying the date or place of the conference against a background of popular music. He briefly interviews conference delegates in the foyer where registration is underway. Their main expectation for the conference is "less bureaucracy, more action." Mezentsev visits a phone-in information office where Komsomol members can inquire about the progress of the conference and a television center where delegates can go during the intermissions for information.

The video then shows the grand opening of the conference, with Boris Yeltsin on the platform, as the words "27th Conference of the Moscow City Komsomol Organization" appear on the screen. The video then cuts stratght to Stanislav Smirnov, Moscow City Komsomol Committee first secretary who says:

"Comrades, the period under review has been difficult and contradictory. It took us 2 years to emerge from a state of sleep and to awaken, rethink and reject everything obsolete. The main thing, however, is that during this period real Komsomol authority has been restored. The increasing protest against formalism in the activities of the Komsomol organizations found expression, for instance, in the fact that from 1981 onwards, membership numbers began to fall in the city Komsomol organization. Form had finally pushed content into the background.

The principle of democratic centralism had degenerated into hypertrophied centralism. Many forms of democratic centralism began to be artificial in nature, like a game. Decisions adopted at the top were not questioned and were accepted inviolate.

"An objective view of the situation in work with young people also indicates that it is not only the Komsomol that is to blame for today's problems. It is evidence of the fact that due attention, realistic attention, is not paid to young people, and that confidence in them is lacking; insufficient attention is paid to creating conditions to develop young people's initiative and their very expression in society as a whole. The Moscow city Komsomol Committee thinks that many problems have been aggravated by subjective factors. A review of the Moscow City Bureau Komsomol committee by comrade (?Nusev) of Sovetskiy Rayon Komsomol Committee showed that Komsomol Central Committee senior staff had never once been to a whole series of Komsomol organizations. The greater number [of problems] dealing with youth are resolved here behind closed doors. Why is the rayon committee needed, then, if it has no ties with primary committees?

"Many problems remain unresolved, and not only during the last 2 years. We conference delegates have been given the right to set out and adopt a precise, clear program of action to realize the aspirations of the city's young people, and to participate in the revolutionary transformations in the life of our society. Before the conference we briefed you on the basic problems in the activity of the city organization. Taking account of opinions which have been expressed, and elaborations on these, we would like to start the discussion." The camera pans the applauding audience and presidium meanwhile, showing Yeltsin sitting next to Mironenko on the platform.

Speaking from the rostrum, a delegate who gave his name as Vladimir Preobrazhenski dwelled on the contradiction between the democratic nature of the Komsomol and bureaucratic methods of the leadership. "The consumerist, petty-minded, essentially petty bourgeois psychology which is widespread among a considerable section of young people, combined with the excessive centralization in management of Komsomol affairs, to the formation in the Komsomol, led, especially in the apparat (?which has been relieved of office), of a stratum of senior workers who see the aim of their life and work in the Komsomol first and foremost as being the establishment of their own personal well-being. They move up by all possible means and seek promotion, looking for the most comfortable and lucrative posts, striving to get to places where consumer goods in short supply are distributed. The hypertrophy of centralism which was also mentioned in the report today, so to speak, was precisely in their interests, as was the substitution of administration by injunction for true conviction. The question of democracy is primarily a question of who possesses what authority. If a rayon organization...[changes thought] It needs to be made essential that the amount of powers -- well, we have called this competence -- of any elected Komsomol body be determined by precisely those who elected that body; and in no other way whatsoever." Applause is heard.

A speaker from the floor who introduces himself as (Shlenov), secretary of MIFI [Moscow Engineering Physics Institute] says: "Comrade Preobrazhenskiy has been trying to involve us in debate on his theory of limiting the competence of elected Komsomol bodies. Comrades, such a position totally contradicts the principles of democratic centralism, and can be shattered by a simple example. Suppose a natural disaster has occurred in the town, and the Komsomol town committee needs to take emergency measures, but these measures fall outside the level of competence which Comrade Preobrazhenskiy proposes imposing. If so his whole theory collapses. Moreover he has not cited a single living example of how his theory would work. I call on delegates to deal a resolute rebuff to such attempts." Before the report quickly cuts to the next sequence one hears what appears to be the start of applause for his appeal, though the section of the audience around him appears unmoved.

The next clip shows a speaker from the floor, a rayon committee official who recalls the mountains of meaningless paperwork his office used to occupy itself with, but states that over the last 2 years things have been changing and real things are getting done in the rayon now. This is followed by a brief sequence in which Mezentsev goes behind the scenes to visit an office which is taking telephone questions and suggestions for the conference.

The following sequence shows delegates in the foyer showing credentials at a desk and receiving something which may be an agenda. One of those in the line is Boris Yeltsin. As he turns away from the desk Mezentsev addresses him:

"Boris Nikolayevich, just a couple of words for Central Television, if you will. Today sees the end of the report-back and election campaign for the capital's Komsomol: What is your appraisal of it.

Yeltsin answers: "Well, I should say that the whole report-back and election campaign by the city's Komsomol is now at a crossroads; it is at a very crucial period in its work and a great deal is now going to depend on Komsomol committees. The Komsomol will be moving forward in its work. A very fundamental change is going to occur, literally following the city conference." A crowd has now gathered around to listen.

Mezentsev asks: "What do you yourself expect from young people" What is the role of the capital's young people in the life of the city?

Yeltsin replies: Well, it is probably true to say that there is no area today where young people are in many respects not a decisive factor in the changes in our society. Renewal of society will, in general, take place via young people. For us restructuring oneself is more difficult. For young people its more...[changes thought] Just look, restructuring is under way, but it's more difficult. Young people react much more energetically, they are faster in changing their ways, in reacting to all the changes in life; and it is young people who bring the chief, fundamental impetus to changing society in all areas of life. I think that the Komsomol -- if not yet through legislative acts -- should all the same take upon itself as an active function calling for the replacement of a leader, and the appointing of another leader, in cases where there are contradictions, where he is not up to the requirements of section leader, director, or whatever. It is precisely the Komsomol as a militant organization, a militant Komsomol committee, which, having its line, will have the character and principles and shoud raise the issue: No! We are proposing our own director. A 32-year-old, or perhaps a 30-year-old."

Extracts are shown from two more speeches from the rostrum: A Moscow builder calls for efforts to show schoolchildren what real work is really like and the satisfaction to be gained from doing it well, and draws laughter and applause for his suggestion that different industry holidays should be celebrated on the same day "so that we can all have the time off together;" and a medical students laments the quality of teaching given in schools on ethical, moral, and family matters, recalling that in her case it was given by the same man who taught military training.

Popular music accompanies more foyer scenes, interspersed with an interview with a rayon committee first secretary who dwells on the need for the Komsomol to sponsor financially autonomous organizations which will bring in much needed cash.

The video now cuts to Mezentsev in foyer interviewing Viktor Mironenko, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee. Mezentsev asks: "Viktor Ivanovich, what is the Komsomol today?"

Mironenko answers: "You're asking the most difficult question straightaway! However strange it may seem, in the new socio-political situation the old Komsomol song 'What Is the Komsomol?' has become extremely topical. One gets the feeling that unfortunately, quite a lot of youngsters simply do not realize what sort of organization it is, what aims and targets it has set for itself. One must quite simply understand that the Komsomol is an organization of those who want to educate themselves to be communists. Anyone entering the Komsomol should understand what he wants from it: in that organization he wants to learn to unite his interests with the interests of society as a whole. If someone does not want that, but just wants to break-dance, or wants just to listen to rock music, then both he and those who admitted him to the Komsomol have made a big mistake. One must be aware of this.

"All the same, this conference, and everything else, gladdens me. You know, there is no longer that sort of atmosphere of intolerable boredom, artificiality, monotony, so to speak. People are thinking; young folk are seeking. Today what I consider a marvellous idea was aired here: one of the youngsters said; Listen, we're fed up with carrying on discussions which are sometimes totally futile. We've got to get down to basics.

"The situation taking shape now is exceptionally favorable for solving many questions in the Komsomol which have been awaiting solution for years and decades. Three days ago, a major document was signed in the Council of Ministers on the formation of a public and state system of scientific and technical creativity, and the set of the necessary legal acts, so to speak, which regulate this activity opens up very wide possibilities for combining young people's desire to engage in technical creativity with the enterprises' requirements for resolving technical targets. We are convinced that the combination of these two principles will yield a result which can by far surpass the results even of the students' building teams, which we have become accustomed to now."

Mironenko goes on to elaborate this in general terms. Asked his opinion of the Moscow City Komsomol Organization, Mironenko stresses its traditional importance as being at the hub of events, and adds: "But I shall make no assessment. Let's be democratic, as we have agreed: let the conference make the assessment."

Teacher (Yuriy Pashchenko), speaking from the rostrum, elaborates on the difficulties he came up against in trying to get his pupils engaged in socially-useful labor, and says that teachers often end up doing what the Komsomol organization should be doing.

(Lyuba Rudenko) an actress at the Mayakovskiy Theater, takes the rostrum to suggest the establishment of a youth arts center; and a speaker from the floor calls for education of the young through labor, citing his own experience of working with "difficult" youngsters who have been transformed into model citizens through farm labor, combined with a great deal of physical exercise.

Mezentsev chats with delegates during another intermission, and then interviews Smirnov, first secretary of Moscow City Komsomol Committee in the foyer. While the latter is speaking, the words "The plenum of the Moscow City Komsomol Committee elected Stanislav Smirnov first secretary and member of the Moscow City Komsomol Committee Bureau" come up on screen.

Mezentsev says "Well, today many Komsomol senior workers are unfortunately withdrawing from the process of democratization in society and do not make use of the central television tribune. What has given rise to this, and what do you see as the ways forward in this work?

Smirnov replies: "Well, this is first and foremost the result of the established stereotypes. For the moment we are afraid of the television tribune. Second, though, the fact is that we are simply not ready. One has to know how to do this, one has to learn it. We must force ourselves to use it, and get television to help us."

Smirnov closes after discussing the skills needed by a Komsomol senior worker: A desire to work for people, and above all good organizational skills.

KAZAKHSTAN SOVKHOZ DIRECTOR, OFFICIAL DISMISSED

OW250945 [Editorial report] Moscow television service in Russian at 0645 GMT on 20 March broadcasts the 30 minute "Current Mail" Program presented by political observer Viktor Beketov. The third item on the program deals with a complaint by R.I. Sinitsa, manager of the local store in Nakhimov Sovkhoz in Turgay Oblast, Kazakhstan. In her letter Sinitsa outlines various difficulties of the sovkhoz, the problems in obtaining goods mainly due to the inefficiency and bureaucratic indifference and lack of transportation.

She goes on to describe the lack of elementary care for equipment and says her visits to the director of the sovkhoz, (M. Ya. Vostrykhov), are pointless because he never has any time to listen.

Whenever visits by high officials are expected, Sinitsa says, efforts are made to make the place presentable. After their departure, everything returns to "normal".

Beketov says he decided to pay a visit to the sovkhoz. Video shows general shots of the village with Beketov saying a meeting was held that evening with invited rayon and oblast leaders. At the meeting they discussed the question of the letter to central television.

A number of unidentified women complain about poor living conditions, bad pay, and the reluctance of the authorities to grant annual leave. Z.D. Telyatnik says that work plans were set with no consideration for the living conditions of the people. No criticism was possible because all meetings were stage-managed in advance, including who the speakers were going to be and what they were going to say. She says: "Those who wished to say something from the floor were simply prevented from doing so. All this was stored up over the years and decades until one of the villagers decided to act."

The chairman of the village council, N.A. Yakovlev, discusses the frustrations in dealing with the sovkhoz director. A school teacher, V.I. Yakovleva, speaks about the "inhumanly" cold conditions at the school. Other speakers complain about the lack of warm water at the dairy, which prevents proper care of the equipment. There is no ambulance service and no access to medical service at all. Pregnant women have to be sent to a medical center over 60 kilometers away. There have been occasions when women have given birth in a car.

S. Mukhamedzhanov speaks about the condition of equipment and facilities for repair work. Repeated requests to the director for proper facilities remained unanswered. A.K. Kantayev, the party secretary, speaks about constant requests to the director for funds to build a warm garage to make winter repairs possible. Young workers speak of low retention of youth in the village due to poor prospects and lack of suitable conditions. The radio cannot even be heard in the village. One woman asys: "We live in a sort of dungeon. We hear nothing, not even the sound of a radio. It is a special occasion, a time for rejoicing, when the radio is turned on for the winter festival or a visit of the first secretary. Only then is the radio turned on. The meeting ends, the guest departs, and the radio is once again silent for years at a time."

Beketov says that everything described in the letter turned out to be true. Video shows rusting equipment, poor facilities, and empty houses. Video then shows the local bakery, which is rundown and dirty. Schoolchildren are seen in their classrooms dressed in heavy overcoats. In contrast, the store, in anticipation of the visit, is seen to be full of goods, the likes of which have not been seen here in years. The shop is full of people complaining about the usual lack of basic foodstuffs. One woman says that even bread is at times hard to get.

Beketov ends the program by saying that the trip was not in vain. He just received a letter from the first secretary of the Turgay party Obkom which says: "Recently the obkom party bureau held a meeting at which (Vostryakov), director of the Nakhimov sovkhoz, and A.K. Kantayev, the party secretary, were dismissed for bureaucratism, procrastination, and indifference in their treatment of people, and were also subjected to strict party penalties. Both were relieved from their positions."

WRITER RECALLS 'UNSELFISH, FEARLESS' PASTERNAK

PM171611 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 9, 1 Mar 87 p 16

[Lev Ozerov article: "That's How They Begin To Live By Verse"]

[Text] Years go by, new generations come marching in, but love and attention given to poet Boris Pasternak, as well as interest in his creative work, do not diminish.

Recently a Commission on Boris Pasternak's Literary Heritage held its first meeting under the chairmanship of the poet Andrey Voznesensky, and proposed to the Soviet Writers' Union that the unfounded decision passed on Pasternak in 1958 be cancelled. The recommendation was upheld and the former decision was cancelled.

The commission also proposed that the poet's house in Peredelkino be made a museum, that his complete works be published, and that there be a celebration of the centenary of Pasternak's birth in 1990. Sergey Zalygin, editor-in-chief of "NOVYY MIR," has told the commission that Boris Pasternak's novel "Doctor Zhivago will be published in "NOVYY MIR."

Long before I saw and heard Boris Pasternak, I had seen and heard him in his books. I did not learn them by rote, the text itself imprinting onto my mind, and I, not noticing this, began to speak and think after his lines. And to express myself in his voice, and to write in his handwriting. This was dangerous: I could become a yesman, an imitator, I could lose myself....

"That's how they begin to live by verse," it is said in Pasternak's writings. I began to get to the roots of Russian poetry with 19th-century classics. Having concentrated on them, I verified contemporary poetry precisely with classics. And very little, regretfully little, remained in the poetry of the 20th Century after this verification. But time made its amendments: Annenskiy and Blok, Yesenin and Belyy, Akhmatova and Khoadasevich, Tsvetayeva and Mayaliovskiy. Pasternak was in that circle. And outside that circle. I have always regarded his destiny and his writings as something very personal, and now, in my very advanced age, I can say: they adjusted my life and determined much in my character, in my tastes and predilections.

I would like to tell about Boris Pasternak and his outstanding example. A teacher? A mentor? I cannot find a definition. I do not know whether I shall be able to find the words to befittingly convey the energy of creativity and life which this man radiated.

The cut-and-dried jubilee-smacking word "burning" in its original meaning, in its stem contains what I would like to convey in speaking about Boris Pasternak. He burned and shined so brightly that by the reflections falling on us we could guess his strength. But it is with this word "strength" that he defined what we usually refer to with the word "talent", a word which he did not respect very much. The supreme expression of this strength is genius.

I saw Pasternak for the first time in 1935 in Volkhonka street, in a house which is no longer there. On two occasions in different times I approached the doors of his flat, got scared, went away, regretted and cursed myself and my clumsy shyness, and my awkwardness of an ignoramus. Only on the third time did I gather full speed, rang at the door and it opened with frightening quickness.

I was stupefied. Standing in front of me was Boris Pasternak -- 45 years old, young, shining, fiery-eyed, carried away for ever by life. He invited me to a big shady room. We sat by the window looking on a wide expanse which had not long before that been occupied by the famous Cathedral of Christ the Saviour. It was sorrowfully and indignantly vacant. I came for half an hour, but stayed for more than four hours. Now I shall not go into the details of our conversation. It covered a multitude of themes, an the passages from one subject to another were inexplicable and dictated by Boris Leonidovich's impetuosity and outspokenness, I was overwhelmed by both the contents of the conversation and the manner in which one or another thought was expressed. There was nothing specially prepared, rolled over in previous conversations. Pasternak hummed, as it were, for long, searching for a word, looking for it with widely opened eyes, fishing it out of the "noise of the vocabulary," as he used to put it, therefore his speech not only did not fit into the stereotypes accepted in the cultured circles -- it decisively and gayly smashed them to pieces. It was captivating to follow this. I was present at the birth of live speech conveying a living flow of feelings. I heard nothing like it either prior to that meeting or after it -- now, half a century after, I can say this for sure.

This was nourishing for the soul. It showed what a poet should be like and what he had to do in this world. I followed his speech and his exceedingly rich vocabulary. Wherever I used to say "flower," he said: Matiolla, a flower smelling only in the evening and at night, twisted panics, night beauty, tuberose.

Having untied the paper case with my poems, he pointed to the successes. There were pitifully few. [paragraph continues]

But it is they that interested him. By showing me what used to be my ceiling at the time, he thereby delivered me from the need to go through scholastic truisms again. Of course, he did not pronounce a phrase that is obligatory in such cases: "Read the classics!" Conversely, what in effect he was driving at was that in handicrafts the important thing is to have learned, while in art in its supreme manifestation it is not to have learned.

Boris Leonidovich said with a guilty air:

"Look, here I clearly did you a disfavour... Someone, they say has coined a word 'pasterscum'. So you have it here. And plenty of it....

and after a pause:

"It seems I should have rejoiced and triumphed. But I don't feel like rejoicing."

Without his reminders and hints each time I brought fewer and fewer lines. Due to this, the conversation was becoming increasingly more meaningful and strict, sometimes dramatic. Pasternak uncovered himself unreservedly.

No less important than this discussion about manuscripts was the very possibility to see Boris Leonidovich in touch with other people, listening to music, arguing about Skryabin or the composition of Nekrasov's poem "Frost the Red-Nosed," about Andrey Belyy and Titsian Tabidze, about Shakespeare's Sonnet 66 and the music of Svyatoslav Rikhter.

Pasternak's creative work and personal life took shape with difficulties. He was subject to attacks shortly after the first All-Union Congress of Writers (1934). I painfully felt the entire injustice of the vulgar, undeservedly rude attitude towards the poet.

"Picking holes" (an expression of those times) developed into disgrace. Pasternak's original works were printed, if printed at all, with caution, by teaspoons, so to speak. Having been printed, they were subjected to the most scathing criticism, long before Doctor Zhivago.

The poet vigorously got down to translations, which he had episodically done even before. Now they emerged into the foreground; Shakepeare, Goethe, Schiller, Byron, Verlaine and Georgian poets. During the war and after it translations overshadowed original poetry and prose, big and small.

Our last major conversation (I put down the date - January 29, 1960) dealt with translations. The strongest master of translation, he complained that he had wasted so many of the finest years on versification, not having been able to "give effect to the essential, really existing designs" (including the play in prose "Blind Beauty," a novel about the origin of Christianity in Georgia, and others).

He was hard pressed materially, but his interlocutor never felt this. He was not embittered and was noted for enviable, unheard-of kindness. I was always delighted by the breadth of his view on man. He was contrasted with poet Demyan Bednyy, he was beaten with Demyan. [paragraph continues]

But at the time when Demyan was being forgotten and even avoided, it was he, Boris Pasternak, that delivered his speech of praise at the plenary meeting of the Writers Union in Minsk in 1936. Pasternak called Demyan Bednyy a "historic figure of the revolution" and the "Hans Sachs of our people's movement." To tell the truth, I saw an exaggeration in this. But at the same plenary meeting Pasternak decisively minimized his own importance. "I was very surprised that my name was so frequently repeated at this plenary meeting. Comrades, I am not to blame for this, I don't understand these tendencies, and personally I gave no occasion for these exaggerations." I was much impressed by this kind of Boris Pasternak's creative conduct. I wanted to imitate it.

It is customary to portray Boris Pasternak as a hermit, fenced off from the epoch and the people. It was painful to hear this. Once Boris Leonidovich told me:

"They have immured me within a wall, and now they stand near and motion to me with their fingers: 'Come here, come to use!'"

Not without pain, he remarked: "A multitude of false views have turned into dogmas because they are always asserted when coupled with something else, indisputable and even sacred, and then part of the paradise from these indisputables passes, as it were, on the allegations which are by far not binding on everyone." There is plenty of room for thought here. Even today I often remember these words.

His speech periods that do not lend themselves to transcription, his passages from theme to theme and from thought to thought -- all of this stimulated further meditations, probes and studies. This was an irreplaceable and unique school of its kind. This man's individuality, his ability to exist in his own, Pasternakian, way among people, to mingle with them, his manner of thoughts and his way of expressing them, in combination, of course, with his poems, prose, translations and letters, were a cogent example for me. A personal example! - in art this means as much as in military affairs, in science and in the family.

His monologues were always unprepared, it would be more correct to call them improvisations. The theme appeared unexpectedly in the course of the conversation. All of a sudden his interlocutor felt that he had to relapse into silence and listen to Boris Leonidovich's improvisation. It has a theme and a great many variations, and developed in time, following the laws of music. Mikhail Shtikh, a schoolmate of the poet, once told me how Boris Pasternak improvised on the piano in the days of his youth.

At the time I made Pasternak's acquaintance, he already transferred his imrovisationalism as a special state of the soul from music to poetry. He spoke about Chopin, Rilke and Tolstoy, life and death, and general laws, often characterizing them with one or two words.

An orator? Oh, no? A lecturer? By no means! An artist in the minutes of special uplift when, no longer alone over a sheet of paper, but in the presence of at least one person, he gave vent to his enthusiasm, ardour, dizzy associations, and the flow of past feelings and presentiments. In the later period these improvisations were becoming increasingly more dramatic with each passing year, and openly tragic towards the end of his life: "The hum died down, I stepped onto the stage."

"The impertinence of a faultless eye" - this is what Boris Pasternak demanded of an artist. There is no artist without this impertinence. He must see farther and deeper than the others, otherwise his existence is meaningless.

I saw Pasternak as an unselfish and fearless person who was merciless towards himself and kind towards those around him. Whatever he wrote was his own self, his life. For instance, sometimes during a conversation he turned to poems, and these poems sounded like a continuation of the conversation. The same voice, the same intonation, the same tune and turn of mind, the same rhyme and mood.

This introduced me to Boris Pasternak's work which - from beginning to end - was dedicated to the life flowing before his eyes. "Life is my sister" - one could see this in his every talk and his every line, no matter what it spoke about: beds of fennel, stars, lilac, forest brooks, children, Chopin, love, snow, date, death of transfiguration.

"Don't interrupt your work." This is not an order because it is addressed primarily to himself. This is conviction. Any of his readers and admirers will say: a most subtle artist, philosopher, musician and actor with the inimitable gift of reincarnation. All is correct. But first and foremost, I would say: he was a workman. I said this once as a toast at the table. Boris Leonidovich liked this. He came up to me and, smiling, corrected me delicately: "a general workman".

He says: "Don't interrupt your work" because you are a "hostage of eternity and captive of the times". A workman. A general workman. He writes, "becoming brutalized from heavy editing", according to Mayakovskiy's old expression. I thoroughly enjoyed the sight of that man who learned the meaning of intoxication with work.

VOA COVERAGE OF JOURNALISTS' CONGRESS SCORED

PM201611 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 4

[A Palladin "Rejoinder": "Squealing Again"]

[Text] The U.S. political dictionary has borrowed a new word from Russian -- the term "glasnost." Transatlantic journalists have learned to write it in the Latin alphabet, and NEWSWEEK even featured it on its cover in Cyrillic recently.

This is an admission, albeit a purely superficial one, of the genuinely worldwide interest in the process of the restructuring and democratization of our society. But interest is interest is interest. The enemies of detente are bursting with malice and hatred, since these people proclaim the principle "the worse it is for them, the better for us."

The correctness of this is confirmed by many publications from the United States. I have been regularly following them for around 20 years but cannot recall such ire and poison in the depiction of Soviet reality. The transatlantic propagandists aim to besmirch above all everything that was, is, and will be good in our society.

This approach, of course, requires appropriate methods. Chief among these are lies and forgery. A recent example of their use was the Voice of America commentary on the election of leading organs at the Sixth USSR Journalists Union Congress that ended Monday.

According to the "Voice," there was an attempt made to impose a show-of-hands vote on the congress, but the IZVESTIYA representative proposed a secret ballot, most of the delegates allegedly supported this, which, it is claimed, caused confusion and unforeseen hitches -- the vote was allegedly delayed 2 hours....

There is only one grain of truth in all this: The fact that the IZVESTIYA representative -- our political observer S. Kondrashov -- did speak. All the rest is a fabrication, and a malicious one at that. Thoughtlessness or professional inaccuracy are ruled out, since foreign journalists attended the congress too. Some were invited to the Hall of Columns as honored guests, others could watch the proceedings on TV monitors set up in the lobby. S. Kondrashov had no need to propose a secret ballot. It is precisely such a procedure -- and none other -- that is stipulated by the USSR Journalists Union rule book. It was scrupulously observed on Monday, as it has been at all previous congresses of this creative association. As for the "2-hour holdup," there was indeed such a break -- the lunch interval.

To put it in a nutshell, by squealing yet again and issuing yet another false report, the Voice of America has shown once more that our transformations stick in its gullet. While talking about "glasnost" with clenched teeth, the White House has digested neither what it means nor what it expresses. I would not write about this at such length if a few days prior to the Voice of America commentary VOA chief Charles Wick, head of the U.S. Information Agency, had not come out with a report whose essence is reflected in its very title: "Glasnost -- A Challenge to American Public Diplomacy." The former jazz arranger who changed jobs to become White House propagandist-general sees current Soviet policy as a new manifestation of the notorious "Soviet threat" and is beating his tom-tom, calling for the "war of ideas" -- essentially, psychological warfare -- to be continued and whipped up.

The Voice of America immediately broadcast its latest helping of lies.

EDITOR BAKLANOV ON 'NEW WINDS FOR CULTURE'

PM241025 Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 20 Mar 87 p 5

[Undated interview with ZNAMYA chief editor Grigoriy Baklanov by Asmund Willersrud: "Completely New Winds for Culture"]

[Text] Moscow -- "When will the Soviet Union be ready for the publication of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn? I do not know. It is not impossible today, but I have no intention of printing him.

"For more than a year there have been revolutionary changes in this country -- has Solzhenitsyn said a word on the subject? Is he not basically not interested in what is happening to the people in his own country?"

The man who wrote a positive review of "A Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich" in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in 1962 -- author Grigoriy Yakovlevich Baklanov -- is today chief editor of the Soviet Writers Union's literary journal, ZNAMYA. At the present time he does not seem to think that the publication of Solzhenitsyn is in the cards.

"I attached and still attach great value to that novel," Baklanov told SVENSKA DAGBLADET. "But what Solzhenitsyn has done since then has not benefited his homeland. He has the whole time been involved in an anti-Soviet campaign, without taking any interest in his own people. I have nothing more to say on that subject.

"The imminent publication of 'Doctor Zhivago' is a completely different matter," the editor said, stating that Boris Pasternak never engaged in anti-Soviet activities.

"I said it at the time, and I will say it again: It was a piece of pure stupidity to refuse to publish the novel. Today it is hardly likely to stir up Soviet citizens, even though forbidden fruit always tastes best. Personally, I think that the novel is weak -- Pasternak was a brilliant lyric poet, but 'ordinary' as a prose writer."

Grigoriy Baklanov speaks both as editor and writer. He himself was one of the first to depict World War II in the Soviet Union without any cosmetic detail. Several of his short novels have been published in Sweden. His characterization of the publication of "Doctor Zhivago" as a pseudoevent is, however, just one of the series of official statements which are clearly trying to play down its significance.

We asked him to characterize the cultural developments that have taken place in the last few months -- during which not only Pasternak, but also a number of formerly suppressed authors have been restored in favor: Anna Akhmatova, Nikolay Gumilev, Osip Mandelshtam, Mikhail Bulgakov, to name but a few. There is talk of a new "thaw," of liberalization.

"It is a word that is understood in different ways. I would simply like to say that times are very good for literature in the Soviet Union. The whole atmosphere in the country has changed; it is a revolutionary process. Note that these are changes which to begin with have come from above," Baklanov stressed. "They are developments which will continue," he said.

However, in a speech at the weekend Politburo Member Yegor Ligachev, who is considered to be the party's chief ideologist and second in command after Gorbachev, voiced views which could be read as a reservation about this process and a warning against going too far too fast.

"The greater independence of editorial committees goes hand in hand with strict demands as far as idea and content are concerned," Ligachev said. He said that many books which in the past had been unknown to readers "for various reasons" have been published recently. However, he said that "exaggerated assessments" are sometimes made of them, and this leads to the great Russian and Soviet classics being overshadowed.

Ligachev was, if possible, even clearer in his reservations about the freedoms of the press and journals to criticize and uncover mistakes in the past -- something which the Gorbachev policy of glasnost encourages. "Negative aspects are only part of the truth," Ligachev said, reminding his audience of the October Revolution and the victories in the Great Patriotic War -- feats which the nation carried out under the leadership of the Communist Party. This is now continuing its work devotedly, he said, adding that "the whole truth must emerge."

"I do not take this as a warning," the editor of ZNAMYA said. "In literature as in the rest of society each thing must have its importance. Pushkin is Pushkin, but we will continue to search for talented new authors. We must coordinate yesterday's, today's, and tomorrow's literature. Social criticism has still not been reflected in lyric poetry, but is appearing at full spate in modern prose. We will be publishing a critical report of Soviet bureaucracy, and we are publishing a novel by Pristavkin depicting the tragedy when Stalin sent whole peoples into exile. I see no threat to what is happening in literature," Baklanov said.

He said that he edits his journal without interference.

ECONOMIST ADVOCATES EXPEDIENCY IN PRICE-FIXING

PM241011 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 18 Mar 87 p 2

["Specialist's Opinion" column by Doctor of Economic Sciences A. Deryabin: "Price -- Stimulus or Brake?"]

[Text] Moscow -- It is hardly necessary to demonstrate the need to sharply improve plan price-fixing. After all, it is impossible without it to introduce economic normatives or really implement self-capitalization and self-financing. The depth of improvement of distributive relations and consistency in the implementation of the principle of social justice depend in many respects on prices. The question is how to reform price-fixing.

There is for the time being no simple answer to this question. The simplest way is to change prices if they are in some way considered too high or, conversely, excessively low. This is what a number of economists' recommendations essentially boil down to. It should be remembered that the levels and correlations of prices have changed before. This happened in industry in 1982, in agriculture 1 year later, and in construction 1 year after that. The system, however, has not markedly improved. It is in no way a question of any lack of boldness or resolution here. Many prices were changed very resolutely. The whole problem lies in the actual approach to the question, in the conviction that order can be instilled by "playing" with price levels and correlations.

What does everyone expect from the prices system? Everyone expects prices to be capable of responding rapidly and flexibly to the accelerating of updating products and stimulating the differentiation of their consumer characteristics and qualities inline with public demand. Prices are also expected not only to reflect the present state of the economy but also actively to influence its transformation and act as effective incentives to the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and all socioeconomic development.

Are such demands on price-fixing realistic? I am certain that they are quite realistic, although there is, of course, a great deal in price-fixing which will have to be restructured; the main thing, however, is to resolutely abandon its present-day methodology, methods, anhd organization. Within the old framework we can do no more than patch a few holes, and that at the cost of creating new problems.

Some economists propose abandoring state centralized price-fixing altogether and going over completely to determining prices by agreement between the manufacturers and consumers of products. They leave price-fixing bodies merely with monitoring functions, the content of which, it is true, is not very clear. Such an oversimplified solution of the problem would be another extreme, opening up the door to volatility and unpredictability in the movement of prices and change in their levels and correlations.

However, plan price-fixing exists even now in name only: There is no plan at all for changes in the levels and correlations of prices. Ministries, associations, and enterprises possess no information at all about when, how, or to what extent prices will change, whether they will go up or down. At best they will learn that there is to be a price review a year in advance. How in such conditions can they structure their economic strategy and take properly validated long-term decisions?

A plan to develop price-fixing and the prices system is essential.

It is clearly necessary to put the question about the economic basis of prices differently too. They are currently established in terms of average outlays on the production of specific kinds of output. And economists correctly describe these as "outlay" prices. The average figures can and do conceal mismanagement, wastefulness, out-of-date equipment and production processes, and lax production organization.

If economic leadership methods are to be really mastered and used to overcome mismanagement, it is essential that progressive norms and normatives are drawn up. The plan price is one of the most important national economic normatives. The normative is capable of fully combining the centralized principle with the utilization of commodity-money relations and the law of value [stoymost], provided that the actual price reflects the outlay of social labor deemed socially necessary and that the progressive norm for expenditure is based on outlay involving modern equipment and production processes, minimal consumption of resources, optimal production sharing and specialization, and the best possible production organization. Those who lag behind on even one of these scores cannot and must not count on any appreciable profit.

It will then also become possible to adopt a different approach to the decentralization of price-fixing. At present, for example, extensive information on the size and makeup of virtually all kinds of outlay at specific enterprises is required when draft prices are being considered. Quite a lot of time is consumed in compiling and studying the information. But with only modest results. It would be much better if, rather than engaging in the detection of "errors" in the computation of prime cost and economic effectiveness, the price-fixing bodies were to foucs their attention on creating conditions whereby the producers themselves determined prices and the possibility of unjustified price increases was precluded.

It is proposed that the following procedure operate in economic practice: When a new product comes on stream, the prices of the old items withdrawn from production are to be reduced. But there is no benefit at all to be gained from adhering to this procedure: It makes no serious economic sense at all. It is necessary to reduce prices not only on items withdrawn from production but on all goods rendered obsolete as a result of the manufacture of a new product. And if the manufacturing enterprise withdraws such items from production and replaces them by new ones it must receive a premium on the new product in proportion to the cost reduction.

But it is not just a matter of easing the situation for those who accomplish technical, technological, and economic breakthroughs: It is equally important that those people who lag behind be completely deprived of any encouragement. The situation must not be allowed to exist whereby an enterprise with out-of-date equipment and production processes and poor production organization can be profitable, other things being equal, by virtue of producing a product with a good price but of poor quality.

Apart from everything else, such a price-fixing practice undermines the role of price as a means of active social policy. Increasing purchase prices for agricultural raw materials, for example, has led to an ever-increasing number of foodstuffs being produced at outlays in excess of the retail prices. Direct budget subsidies are increasing. They have already reached R56 billion.

Of course, the subsidy system is not flawless. But it is hardly necessary to reject it. In most cases the subsidizing of consumer goods has the same social basis as, for example, free education and free health care. It is not subsidies which create the problems, but the overall imbalance between the supply and effective demand for goods.

Unsatisfied demand means a shortage of a number of goods.

You can, of course, eliminate the shortage of a particular product by raising prices, but you cannot remove the imbalance between the supply and effective demand for goods. And this imbalance does not arise of its own accord. There are quite specific "creators" of imbalance. They are above all those who produce for the warehouse, whose product does not sell. The country's well-known Krasnodar worsted-cloth combine has in the last 3 years piled up R67 millions' worth of cloth in its warehouses. And yet its workers have received wages and bonuses even larger than, for example, their colleagues at the Kalinin combine, whose output is in demand.

It is clearly necessary now to think not about raising retail prices but first and foremost about increasing economic accountability, which must be clear and direct. If a product is consigned to the warehouse, there can be no question of any bonuses being paid and wages must be reduced. It is the collective and no one else that must pay for unwanted output and poor quality.

I think it is time to abandon the stereotyped approach to classifying goods by groups: Meat and meat products, fish and fish products, confectionary, fabrics, clothes, knitwear, footwear, cultural and consumer goods... Since each of these groups contains products which satisfy demands of varying importance.

And it is clear that the path of most intensive differentiation of prices must be followed. Delicacies will then really be delicacies, that is to say, products acquired in special circumstances. It is particularly necessary to isolate imported goods, particularly those acquired to freely convertible currency, in terms of price level. Prices, moreover, can be differentiated not only in terms of basic qualities but also secondary characteristics. It is clear that such differentiation of prices will be effective if the differentiation is substantial.

In any event price can and must serve as a powerful incentive to both production and consumption. For this to be achieved it is extremely necessary that fixed dogmas and customary, outmoded schemas and approaches be abandoned now, during restructuring.

PROVISION FOR 'RELEASED WORKERS' URGED

PM171101 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 17 Mar 87 p 2

[Letter from V. Timiryason under the rubric "We Discuss the Draft Law on Enterprises": "What Happens After Closure?"]

[Text] Kazan -- The draft provides for the possibility of closing down an enterprise if it has made a loss for a long time and if it cannot rectify matters. In my view it is right to put the question this way. For too long now production units in industry, construction, and agriculture have led a comfortable life while doing the national economy nothing but harm. Therefore, closure or conversion to the production of different output is the only reasonable solution in conditions of financial autonomy.

But if we approach this as the rule -- and the law lays down the rules, not the exceptions to them -- thought must also be given to the consequences of releasing the work force. Are we prepared to retrain and find new work for a considerable number of workers? I am afraid that we are not.

There is an opinion now current that we have a great many job vacancies and the job placement problem is very easily solved. [paragraph continues]

Indeed, we do have jobs that are unfilled. But some economists and sociologists are now warning with good reason that the approach here cannot be a purely mathematical one. After all, the vacancies require skilled hands. Will there be enough of these vacancies in a region where an enterprise is to be closed? What about retraining? After all, we are talking about releasing not only workers but employees and specialists, too. Will we not be undermining socialism's most important gain -- man's right to work?

I believe that the new draft law provides yet another reason for considering the formulation of a statewide program to ensure full and effective employment for the able-bodied population through the year 2000 and perhaps in the longer term.

Be that as it may, there must be no oversimplified approaches to the problem of closing an enterprise. I propose that article 23 contain the following: that when closing or reorganizing an enterprise the superior organ is obliged to obtain the consent of the AUCCTU and the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems. The released workers are guaranteed the rights provided by the USSR Constitution and the law.

OPEN LETTER TO MINISTER SCORES BULLDOZER DEFECTS

PM251525 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 March 1987 Morning Edition carries on page 2 under the headline "Bulldozers For the North Must Not Fear Frosts" a 600-word open letter from O. Naskin, team leader at the "Indigirzoloto" Combine's "Pobeda" Mine, to A. Yezhevskiy, USSR Minister of tractor and agricultural machine building. The writer complains about shortcomings in the reliability, suitability, and comfort of bulldozers based on the T-300 tractor when used at temperatures of minus 40 degrees and lower, which are quite common in the Oymyakon region where he works.

He points out that last year, owing to breakdowns, the bulldozers were forced to stand idle for more than 15,000 hours against a total of 33,418 hours worked. The team leader complains that representatives of the plant which makes the bulldozers have never paid a visit to try to sort out the difficulties, whereas specialists of foreign firms that have supplied equipment "endeavor to visit at the first opportunity."

He concludes his letter by saying: "I urge your ministry's workers to cooperate with us gold miners of the Oymyakon Region. I believe that both sides will benefit from this."

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 19-25 MAR

LD260225 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwide indicated, on 19-25 March 1987. GMT times of broadcast are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

19 March

In Tselinograd Oblast some 90 percent of tractors have been overhauled; The oblast's farmers are to sow about 3 million hectares [ha] to grain crops, one-third of this acreage being allocated to intensive wheat growning. (0500)

On Rostov Oblast's southern farms unusual sowing is in progress: winter rape is being sown in the snow-covered, frosty morning soil. Over 1,000 ha has been sown to this valuable forage crop. (0500)

20 March

Sugar beet has begun to be sown in south Kazakhstan: the crops are to be sown here on 56,000 ha. (1200)

No fileworthy reports monitored for 21 March.

22 March

Corn sowing has started in Kurgan-Tyube Oblast in Tajikistan. The financially autonomous teams of the oblast have adopted a pledge to procure up to 100 quintals of corn per hectare in the current season. (1200)

The Kolichozes and Sovkhozes of Actaj have obtained over 15,000 metric tons of corn seed (1200)

The harvesting of intertillage feed crops has started in Uzbekistan. The first farms to start this work were in southernmost Surkhandarya Oblast, where oats, rye, and rape have been cultivated on 8,000 ha. According to specialists, the harvest has been good. The land now made available is being prepared for the sowing of cotton and corn for silage. (2050)

Corn growers of Kurgan-Tyube Oblast, the southernmost oblast in Tadzhikistan, were the first in the republic to bring out seed drills into the fields. Corn for grain will be cultivated by intensive technology. (2105)

23 March

Sowing of grain crops began today in Kazakhstan's Alma-Ata Oblast. Machine operators are beginning with the dryland masses of the Karbulak and Karaoy semi-deserts. About 100,000 ha are to be sown with barley and wheat. Spring fertilizing is to be conducted simultaneously. (1200)

Chechen-Ingush ASSR farmers are competing sowing of early spring crops. According to the information of the Autonomous Republic's statistical service, pulse and feed crops have taken up 90 percent of all areas under crops. (2230)

Kirghiz SSR -- agricultural workers are channelling intensive melting of snows via canals and reservoirs to plowed fields. (2230)

No fileworthy reports monitored for 24 March.

25 March

Farmers in Tomsk Oblast have completed the plan for milk sales to the state for the first quarter of 1987 ahead of schedule. They have already sold 41,000 metric tons to processing enterprises, and expect to supply an extra 4,000 metric tons or so of milk by 1 April. (0100)

The seed grading works of North Ossetia have completed dispatching high-quality and hybrid corn seeds to northern and eastern regions of the country. At the request of the northern consumers, for the first time the supplies include seeds processed with a special film-forming preparation, which means that they can be sown 2 weeks earlier than usual. (0100)

The first farms in Uzbekistan to sow alfalfa are in Fergana oblast; 7,000 more hectares are being sown to this crop than planned. Early spring sowing is coming to an end in Chechen-Ingushetiya. (1200)

SELSKAYA ZHIZN DESCRIBES CURRENT FIELD WORK

PM231105 [Editorial Report] Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 20 March 1987 front-pages a 1,200-word editorial under the headline "Spring Field" describing the field work now under way in the Soviet Union. In particular the editorial states: "This year the task is being set of harvesting at least 232 million metric tons of grain, 7.6 million metric tons of oil seeds, 92 million metric tons of sugar beet, and 148 million metric tons of forage feed units." Speaking of the spring sowing work, the editorial notes: "The areas which are being cultivated in many regions of the country are being increased because of undersowing, resowing, and the 'repair' of part of the winter grain crops and the marked expansion of the area of cultivated land."

SESSION VIEWS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROBLEMS

LD232155 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] A regular session of the Commission of the Presidium of the USSR Council of Ministers for Environmental Protection and Rational Use of Resources took place today. A report was heard from the USSR State Committee for Supervision of Safe Working Practices in Industry and for Mine Supervision on its work to monitor the observation on the part ministries, departments, enterprises, and organizations of the legislation concerning underground resources and the fulfillment of state plans with respect to the rational use of mineral resources. It was noted that in industries which perform the extraction and processing of basic mineral materials there has been a reduction in losses of coal, ores, ferrous and nonferrous metals, agro-chemical materials and other mineral resources. However, the level of complete and comprehensive use of many types of basic mineral materials still remains low; the losses in mineral resources remain high, and the negative effect of production processes in the mining industry on the environment remains significant. The commission instructed the USSR State Committee for Supervision of Safe Working Practices in Industry and for mine supervision to develop -- by agreement with the Councils of Ministers of the union republics -- and implement measures for a radical improvement in the activity of the committee and its on-the-spot bodies with respect to providing for state interests in development of underground resources.

The question of the condition of work in conservation of minor rivers and providing for the rational use of their water resources was considered. The commission noted that in 1986 the level of organizational work in this area increased in the union republics. Aside from this the sanitary and ecological condition of many minor rivers, and prticularly in Leningrad, Novgorod, Yaroslavl, Rostov, Kuybyshev, Penza, Kurgan, Kaluga, and Magadan Oblasts in the RSFSR and in a number of oblasts in the Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Belorussia, Moldavia, Latvia, Azerbaijan, and Armenia, remains unsatisfactory. Implementation of conservation of their fish stocks is poor. The councils of Ministers of the union republics and the ministries and departments concerned have been instructed to take concrete measures to restore and maintain favorable water habits in the minor rivers.

Taking into account that this year unusually high flood levels are expected in the central and southern areas of the European part of the country, the commission has instructed that a check be carried out in the shortest possible timescale on the readiness of production associations, enterprises and organizations, and of collective and state farms to prevent the pollution of minor rivers by fertilizers, chemical weed- and pest-killers, other harmful substances, and also by industrial waste.

The session of the commission was led by Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

PROGRESS-28, MIR COMPLEX SEPARATE IN SPACE

LD261405 Moscow TASS in English 1243 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 26 TASS -- A TASS correspondent reports from Mission Control Centre:

The unmanned freight spacecraft Progress-28 was separated from the orbital complex Mir today at 8:07 Moscow time after the completion of the joint space flight programme.

All scheduled operations -- unloading, refuelling the station's tanks with fuel and oxydant and pumping drinking water -- were completed. The orbit of the complex was adjusted twice by starting up the freight ship's propulsion unit.

The cosmonauts aboard the station, Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin, are winding up their seventh week in orbit. Today the crew will carry out another series of geophysical tests and a number of technological experiments.

The cosmonauts are continuing their space mission.

'BIOLOGICAL' SATELLITE TO BE LAUNCHED NEXT FALL

LD251045 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Preparations are underway in the USSR to launch a biological space satellite. The director of the Institute for the Study of Medical and Biological Problems, Oleg Gazenko, has reported that the launching has been scheduled for the autumn. Several species of animals, micro-organisms and plants are to make a 2-week journey aboard the satellite. During the experiments, Oleg Gazenko said, we'll continue to study the effect of zero gravity and other space flight factors on these species' development. The scientific results obtained will be used to develop biological systems for future interplanetary spacecraft. Such systems will keep cosmonauts supplied with fresh food during long-term flights.

HEALTH EXPERT VIEWS WORLDWIDE AIDS PROBLEM

PM241151 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 3

[Article by Academician V. Zhdanov of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences: "What We Know About AIDS"; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Excerpts] Newspapers have begun to make frequent mention of the word AIDS -- the acronym of a new, deadly disease which has hit many countries. Contradictory statements have been made: Some people call this disease a "20th-century plague" threatening mankind's very existence, while others believe that it is not an urgent problem for us. There are also contradictory opinions on the virus which causes it. We asked one of the leading specialists on this problem in our country to speak about the disease. [passage omitted]

In North America (the United States and Canada) and West Europe the disease affects different groups of the population unevenly. The victims are primarily men (9 out of 10) and, moreover, those groups of the population which lead a disorderly sex life with perversions, as well as prostitutes and drug addicts who inject drugs.

This is understandable, because the virus is transmitted by sexual means and through blood (in this way infection takes place through the repeated use of nonsterile syringes and needles by drug addicts). Sexual transmission from man to women and vice versa is characteristic of African countries, where prostitution plays a large role in spreading AIDS.

It has been established on the basis of mass serological investigations (determining the presence of antibodies to the AIDS virus) that infection does not always result in illness and that infection with AIDS can proceed in a little-pronounced and even symptomless form. These investigations have also made it possible to elaborate forecasts which have proved pessimistic. Thus, according to data of the U.S. Center for Disease Control, 1-1.5 million people in that country have already been infected with AIDS, and by 1991 270,000 patients will have been registered, of whom 179,000 will die. WHO experts believe that by the end of this century between 1 and 5 million people will go down with AIDS. Thus, AIDS is becoming a global problem.

It would be a harmful delusion to think that the AIDS pandemic, which is developing throughout the world, will bypass our country. We live not in isolation but in a complex world, under conditions of increased contacts among countries and peoples, and therefore the introduction of AIDS into our country cannot be ruled out. The total number of cases of the disease brought to light in the USSR so far does not exceed 30, more than two-thirds of which are accounted for by foreigners living in the Soviet Union and less than one-third by the indigenous population. Naturally the number of healthy AIDS carriers brought to light exceeds the number of patients. The groundlessness of the claims by certain Western newspapers that AIDS appeared in our country back in the seventies should be noted. The first authentic case of AIDS was registered in the USSR only in 1986.

Of course, we are not threatened with such an explosion of the disease as is happening in the United States and West Europe. But the struggle against AIDS must not be allowed to proceed just anyhow, and in this respect both the Soviet Government and Soviet science are doing a great deal. Our scientists have developed diagnostic methods (test systems) which make it possible not only to diagnose the disease but also to bring to light carriers of the AIDS virus during the latent period. Test systems have already been put into production, and millions of blood donors will very soon be screened in order to totally close that possible channel of infection.

A healthy family -- the basic cell of our state -- is of great significance in preventing AIDS. The healthy family is the antithesis of sexual dissoluteness, and every citizen must know that sexual dissoluteness is not only immoral but also dangerous. Unfortunately, we have both drug addiction and other "groups at risk" of contracting AIDS, and these groups must systematically be brought to light and screened for AIDS while, of course, observing the rules of medical ethics.

It should be remembered that AIDS is chiefly transmitted in two ways -- by sexual means and through blood products. The disease is not transmitted during ordinary everyday contacts nor through food, water, or the air. In general, fortunately, the disease is not very infectious and is not always transmitted even from spouse to spouse.

We also speak of this because the population frequently feeds on various rumors, not on scientific knowledge.

Soviet virologists are working persistently to create a vaccine for the prevention of AIDS. This has proved a difficult task, which world science has not yet resolved.

AIDS has become a very important problem in international health care. And this means that international action is needed to solve it. Soviet virologists are urging the WHO to pool the efforts of scientists and health care figures in all countries to combat this grave ailment. What is needed is intensive scientific research, energetic offensive actions, and a regular exchange of information. What is needed is an effective international program of scientific and practical measures, and Soviet specialists are ready to take a very active part in elaborating it.

Almost 30 years ago Soviet virologists submitted a global smallpox eradication program to the World Health Assembly for consideration. It is now 10 years since the last case of smallpox was recorded in the world.

The problem of an active offensive against AIDS is more complex, but it too can be solved through mankind's combined efforts. I would like to believe that the approaching 21st century will be not only a nuclear-free century but also the century of victory over AIDS and other serious diseases.

End